

9/8/2007

SNOWDROPS ARE FALLING ON MY HEAD

After the elk experience at Whistlers, we started on the way to Banff. As we approached Jasper yesterday, we were stopped and charged an entrance fee of \$15.30/day for each day you would be in the park, which includes all the way to Banff. We were here 3 days which cost us \$46 and we still pay camping fees of \$35/day in the park campgrounds! If you drive straight thru in one day, it is free. Think of the income if we copied the Canadian method of fees!

No matter, the drive is so fantastic, with all the mountains, you would even pay more.

We had rain in Jasper, and then it cleared and we had sun shining on the mountains. Then we



headed into more rain, and started to climb. The temperature outside dropped to 34 deg. And it started snowing! It snowed all the way to 7,000 ft elevation. When we dropped over the pass to the Athabasca Glacier, it quit.

We purchased our glacier ice field tickets to go on the giant snow coach. It then started snowing and continued to snow all the way up to where we got off onto the glacier itself. The snow and the glacier both contributed to a memorable experience, for the day. The weather is telling us that it is time to head south!

We were here in 1994 and the toe of the glacier was very close to the highway. The toe now is almost a half a mile away from the road and is still receding. This is where one can see the effects of global warming.

We proceeded to Banff amidst more falling snow. I was hoping they wouldn't call for tire chains, because being from California, we have none!

Dave & Bonnie & Marti