



12 Days

| BC8076

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Queen Charlotte Islands

BC's amazing native culture

DAY 1: Toronto to Comox, BC

From your joining point today, you will be taken to Pearson International Airport where we will join your tour director and air flight to Comox, BC. Upon your arrival you get the chance to enjoy dinner while you get acquainted with the rest of the group. (B,D)

DAY 2: Port Hardy

Starting each morning with a good hardy breakfast, we begin our adventure of the Queen Charlotte Islands. Today we'll travel north up Vancouver Island, passing through Campbell River, Port McNeil and into Port Hardy. Be sure to watch for the totem poles and multiple Murals dotted through town. Here we spend the evening. (B)

DAY 3: Prince Rupert

This morning you will be boarding the BC Ferry for the all day sailing of BC's inside passage route to the city of Prince Rupert. This is a beautiful sailing, part of the way on open ocean, then through the many islands and inlets with steep green clad mountains reaching right down to the sea. (B)

DAY 4: Queen Charlotte City

Today we board a second Ferry to the Queen Charlotte Islands, crossing Hecate strait to Skidegate and Queen Charlotte City. Canada's most remote archipelago the Queen Charlotte Islands or Haida Gwaii (Islands of the People) are an energizing place steeped in culture with unique natural endowments. After getting checked into our hotel, we all join together as a group for Dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: Queen Charlotte City

The islands are very sparsely populated with a few small villages of less than 1000 each people making up the bulk of the population. Today we'll tour by coach up the island first to Port Clements, then further on to the northern most town - Old Massett. Some of the main features to investigate in Old Massett include the Islands largest collection of modern totem poles found throughout the Village. Old Massett has

many talented Haida Artists that sell their art. We'll have time to explore here before returning to our hotel for the night. (B)

DAY 6: Queen Charlotte City

Today we will tour around Skidegate and Queen Charlotte village. Famous for the traditional totem pole carvings, many carvers continue the traditions of the Haida today. The development of the Bill Reid Teaching Centre and Carving Shed within the Qay'Inagaay Heritage Centre in Skidegate will be another place we will discover. (B)

DAY 7: Prince Rupert

Today we make our way by ferry again back to Prince Rupert where we spend the remainder of the evening. (B)

DAY 8: Smithers, BC

On the road today we will drive along the Skeena Valley to Smithers. Besides enjoying the spectacular scenery of the Skeena River, we will be visiting the 'Ksan Historical Village and Museum. This location was an important fishing site and transportation hub. (B)

DAY 9: Prince George, BC

Travelling to Prince George with a nice side trip to Fort St. James, located just north of Vanderhoof, this is one of Parks Canada's least known (and best kept secrets) National Historic Sites. This is a completely restored Hudson's Bay Company Post, originally founded by Simon Fraser in 1806, containing the largest group of original wooden buildings depicting the fur trade in Canada. Tonight we are staying in Prince George. (B)

DAY 10: Williams Lake, BC

Today we will head south to Quesnel and then to one of Western Canada's largest heritage sites at Barkerville. Barkerville was created during one of the most frantic gold rushes in BC's history as over 10,000 people followed the Cariboo gold rush between 1862 and 1870. Later we will

Cost Includes:

- ✓ Airfare from Gateway City to Comox & return
- ✓ Hotel transfer from and to Vancouver airport
- ✓ Relaxing Motor Coach Travel
- ✓ Eleven nights accommodation and taxes
- ✓ Portage of one large suitcase per person
- ✓ BREAKFAST Daily (Some Continental)
- ✓ Three dinners
- ✓ BC Ferry Crossings
- ✓ Admission to the Qay'Inagaay Heritage Centre
- ✓ Admission to the "Ksan Historical Village and Museum
- ✓ Admission to Fort St. James
- ✓ Admission to the Gold Rush Museum
- ✓ Admission to the Secwepemc Museum and Heritage Park
- ✓ Services of our Tour Director

Rates (Cdn) Twin Per Person

Toronto Twin	\$3469.00
Single add	\$760.00
Halifax	\$3669.00
Ottawa	\$3619.00
Sudbury	\$3619.00
Winnipeg	\$3399.00

Rates subject to GST and Airtax

continue south to Williams Lake for the evening and enjoy a group dinner. (B,D)

Day 11: Kamloops, BC

Continue south to Kamloops where we'll visit the Secwepemc Museum and Heritage Park and experience the rich cultural history of the Secwepemc People of the interior Shuswap group. Their attractive museum exhibits incorporate the oral history and legends along with historical photographs, illustrations and artifacts. From here we'll continue south to Kelowna for our final night.

Day 12: Home

This morning the group tour ends with plans to fly home. However, for those who wish to extend their stay in Vancouver, they can choose to do so on their own, by making those arrangements at the time of booking. (B)