

Grizzly Bears in British Columbia



Located 80kms north of Campbell River in British Columbia is a wild and remote area of the Pacific Northwest known as Knight Inlet. As the longest fjord on the B.C. coast, Knight Inlet offers visitors spectacular scenery and dramatic mountain peaks. Situated 60 kms from the mouth of Knight Inlet is a floating lodge of the same name. Tucked into Glendale Cove, Knight Inlet Lodge offers one of the few protected anchorages in the inlet.

During your stay you will be able to enjoy several activities which all centre on the area's fascinating wildlife. Bear viewing is the main attraction but, depending on the nature of your itinerary and how long you choose to stay, you can also expect to see a diverse range of birdlife and marine mammals, too.

This is a unique, untouched area of Canada and guests always depart with fabulous wildlife memories.

The lodge is open from mid May to mid October (closed 25 – 31 July) and the minimum stay is two nights, one in Campbell River and one at Knight Inlet, although we would recommend a stay of at least three nights in order to make the most of the activities.

Your Financial Protection

All monies paid by you for the air holiday package shown [or flights if appropriate] are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 3145.

For more information see our booking terms and conditions.

Knicht Inlet

The lodge dates back to the 1940s when the original float housed a logging camp. The lodge now provides 15 comfortable guest rooms which are cedar panelled and have private bathrooms; most of the buildings have lounges with wood burning stoves for relaxing in the evening.

Glendale Cove is home to one of the largest concentrations of grizzly (brown) bears in British Columbia. It is not uncommon for there to be up to 50 bears within 10 kilometres of the lodge in the peak season, when the salmon are returning to the river. Although they are abundant in the fall, it is not the only season that grizzly bears can be found in Glendale Cove. Beginning in late April the bears return to the estuary from winter dens and start feeding on sedges, succulents, grasses and barnacles that abound in the estuary. The spring growth provides the basic nutritional needs for the bears which draws them from the mountains to the estuary. This is the best time for viewing, as the tiny cubs emerge with their cautious mothers. In the summer, the berry crop is very heavy and this helps keeps the bears in the general area. Although you will usually see some bears every day, you won't see the high numbers of the spring/late summer/fall viewing season.



How you view the bears will depend on the season. In the spring, you will set out in boats which enable you to get close to the shore (50 metres) and have a good view of the bears feeding. A safe distance is kept as to not disturb them. The early summer program continues on the water but if the opportunity arises there may be a chance to use the tree stands.

By late August guests will be moved to the platforms at the spawning channel although you can continue to use the tree and river stands. In all of the viewing situations, guest safety is of the utmost importance. The objective is to view the bears in their natural environment without having a negative impact on them.



There are also a number of other tours available. The marine wildlife tour is recommended and changes depending on the season. In the spring, travelling through the inlet you can expect to see seals, sea lions, porpoises, dolphins and the occasional minke whale. From July onwards, you have the added attraction of the orca (killer) whale – you can spend some great viewing time with these magnificent mammals. In September you can add the humpback whale to the list as they start to arrive from Alaska on their way to Hawaii. Viewings are infrequent, but when they do occur,

they're spectacular!

There are also estuary tours, boat tours, excursions to the upper reaches of Knight Inlet and day trips to Thompson and Bond Sounds. Great photographic and viewing opportunities of birds, bears, and the stunning landscape can be experienced on all of the tours. For the active there are day-hiking tours and guided kayaking tours in the estuary that are also popular ways to view wildlife.



Day 1: Campbell River

Fly Vancouver to Campbell River. You will be met and transferred to Heron's Landing Hotel for one night.

Self-drive guests would make their own way to the hotel.

Day 2: Knight Inlet

Transfer to the float plane dock and take the flight to Knight Inlet Lodge. Check in to your deluxe en-

suite accommodation for your chosen duration. All meals and snacks are included as well as complimentary house wine with dinner.

There will be a welcome orientation meeting on the subject of wildlife viewing, after which you'll embark on an afternoon wildlife activity.

The programme of activities will depend on the length of your stay.

On a one-night stay, you can enjoy the following activities:

- All transportation to the bear viewing stands and boats
- Bear viewing tour
- Scenic boat ride of Glendale Cove
- Knight Inlet sightseeing cruise (weather permitting, no substitutes)
- Use of kayaks on organized estuary tours
- Interpretive guide on all tours
- Evening interpretive programs

Guests staying two nights will be offered the following extra tours:

- Extra bear viewing trip
- Interpretive hike of the Kwalate River Valley
- Wildlife tracking to make plaster casts of animal prints
- Excursions for Bald Eagle viewing and other bird life

Guests staying 3, 4 or 5 nights will be offered your choice of the following:

- Excursions to Johnstone Strait for marine wildlife viewing - weather permitting (on the two night program this tour is difficult to fit in)
- Excursions for Bald Eagle viewing and other bird life
- Excursions to the upper reaches of Knight Inlet for scenic viewing of the inlet
- Excursions to see the grizzly bears from the platforms or boats
- Excursions for other wildlife viewing depending on location and availability
- Scenic cruise of Knight Inlet
- Excursions to Thompson Sound and Bond Sound for bear and wildlife viewing
- Jet boat tours of the Klinaklini River - subject to water levels in the river
- Interpretive forest walks in the Kwalate Valley

***As some of the tours are marine based they are strongly weather dependent. On a short duration tour, it may be difficult to fit them in.

Final Day: Return

Take the float plane back to Campbell River float dock where you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight connection.

Price Guide:

The cost of the **2 night** itinerary is from £860 per person.

3 nights: £1,450 per person

4 nights: £2,065 per person

5 nights: £2,645 per person

6 nights: £3,265 per person

Boat viewing season **May 21 – Aug 23**

Platform viewing season **Aug 24 – Oct 15**

All tours can depart on any day.

Please note the above per person costs are based on low season, please ask for alternative seasons and air fare quotes to Vancouver.

Prices based on twin share and subject to availability at the time of booking. Lower rates apply for triple and quad share.

Includes:

- Return airfare from Campbell River to Knight Inlet Lodge
- Transfers from the airport to the hotel
- One nights' accommodation in Campbell River at the Heron's Landing Hotel
- Accommodation at Knight Inlet Lodge in a deluxe room
- Rain gear if required
- Hotel taxes and park fees

Excludes:

- Flights to Campbell River – ask for a quote
- Alcoholic beverages except wine at dinner
- Gratuities
- Porterage
- Travel Insurance – ask us for a quote
- Items of a personal nature

