

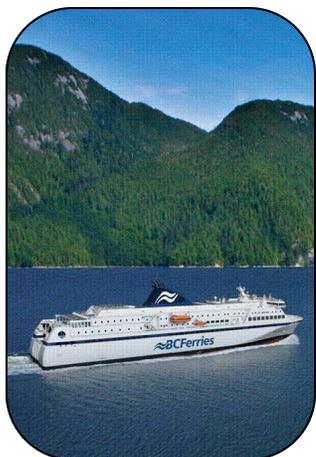
# INSIDE PASSAGE & SKEENA TRAIN

Includes grizzly bear watching at Khutzeymateen Sanctuary

June 22, 2018 - 8 Days



a world to experience



## Fares Per Person:

**\$2895** double/twin

**\$3555** single

**\$2765** triple

> Please add 5% GST.

> **Early Bookers:** \$150 discount on first 15 seats; \$75 on next 10

> **BC Seniors (65 & over):** \$92 discount with BC Gold Care Card

> **Experience Points:** Earn 65 points from this tour.

Redeem **65 points** if you book by **April 18**.



## Includes

- Flight from Victoria to Kelowna
- Transfers to Victoria airport; Kelowna airport to hotel; Nanaimo to Victoria
- Coach transportation for 7 days
- 7 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Ashcroft Manor
- Local guide during drive to Barkerville
- Barkerville admission with Theatre Royal show
- VIA Rail train from Prince George to Prince Rupert in "Touring Class" with dome car seating
- Museum of Northern British Columbia
- North Pacific Cannery Museum
- All-day boat excursion to Khutzeymateen Sanctuary for grizzly bear viewing
- *Northern Expedition* ferry voyage through Inside Passage from Prince Rupert to Port Hardy
- Reserved seat in ferry's Aurora Lounge
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **8 meals:** 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner

## *Northern Expedition*

B.C. Ferries' **Northern Expedition** was specially designed for Inside Passage voyages. Launched in 2009, she is 150 metres long with a beam of 23 metres and a draft of 7½ metres. She carries 130 vehicles, 600 passengers, and 30 crew at a travelling speed of 20.3 knots. The ferry has three passenger decks and an outdoor sun deck. Facilities include the Canoe Café, Vista Restaurant, gift shop, and Raven's Lounge. A comfortable reserved seat in the private Aurora Lounge is included in your fare. The 500-kilometre journey from Prince Rupert to Port Hardy takes 15 hours, all in daylight to permit great viewing of the rugged coastline and abundant wildlife, marine life and birdlife. Our motorcoach travels on the ferry, so luggage and other belongings can be stored there.

**Please book early!** Unsold ferry and train space must be released on April 28. Even though we may have seats on the motorcoach, there may not be space on the ferry or train if you book after this date.

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## Itinerary

### Friday, June 22:

An afternoon transfer is provided to Victoria airport. We fly to Kelowna and stay overnight at the Best Western Hotel.

### Saturday, June 23:

Meals: B,L

We meet the Interior passengers during pickups through the Okanagan Valley and Kamloops. Lunch is included at **Ashcroft Manor**, a roadhouse built in 1862 to serve travellers on the Cariboo Wagon Road. In the afternoon, we head north on the Cariboo Highway with a stop at Painted Chasm. We stay overnight at the Coast Fraser Inn in Williams Lake.

### Sunday, June 24:

Meals: B

We are treated to the knowledge of an expert historian from Quesnel to **Barkerville**. BC's largest restored town offers plenty to do for the day – listen to a discussion of Cariboo justice with Judge Begbie at the Richfield Courthouse, watch the gold cleanup at the Cornish waterwheel, attend church at St. Saviour's, or discuss an 1880s character with a costumed interpreter. The afternoon show at **Theatre Royal** is included. We stay in Prince George at Sandman Signature Hotel.

### Monday, June 25:

Meals: B,L,D

**VIA Rail's Skeena Train** is a spectacular all-day journey from Prince George west to Prince Rupert. Across the Interior Plateau, the train skirts dozens of lakes and the tracks mostly follow a different route than the Yellowhead Highway. There are splendid views of passing scenery as we follow the rushing Bulkley River and the broad Skeena River through the Coast Mountains. You will be pampered all day in deluxe "Touring Class" including seating in the **dome car** and three meals served at your seat. Our luggage stays conveniently on the coach and our driver meets us in **Prince Rupert**. We stay three nights at the Crest Hotel, the city's finest.

### Tuesday, June 26:

The morning is at leisure to visit downtown shops and the wonderful Museum of Northern B.C. In the afternoon, we drive to Port Edwards on the Skeena River and tour the restored **North Pacific Cannery** which was built in 1889.

### Wednesday, June 27:

Meals: L

**Khutzeymateen Grizzly Sanctuary** was established in 1994 and preserves one of the largest populations of grizzly bears in B.C. We board a 22-metre catamaran for an all-day excursion to the sanctuary. The vessel has lots of outdoor deck space and floor to ceiling windows for unsurpassed viewing. We travel north through Chatham Sound, listening to fascinating stories about native villages and watching for dolphins, seals, sea lions, bald eagles, and blue herons as we learn first-hand about this diverse marine environment. June is a great month for easy viewing, as grizzlies are playing and feeding along the shoreline.

### Thursday, June 28:

The **Northern Expedition** departs Prince Rupert for a 15-hour scenic voyage in the **Inside Passage**. Along 500 kilometres of magnificent coastline, we pass hundreds of islands and waterfalls and probably see wildlife such as bald eagles, porpoises, or killer whales. Highlights are the long canal-like **Grenville Channel**, Princess Royal Channel, and the narrows at Bella Bella. A reserved seat in the private Aurora Lounge is included. On arrival in Port Hardy, we stay at the Kwa-lilas Hotel.

**Cabin option:** You can purchase an outside ferry cabin for \$130 or inside cabin for \$100 (per cabin). Each is equipped with two berths, sink, toilet and shower. Please request at time of booking.

### Friday, June 29:

Meals: L

We drive south on the Island Highway, and say goodbye to our Interior travellers at Nanaimo. A transfer is provided back to Victoria.

## Tour Policies

**Payments:** A deposit of \$300 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due April 18, 2018.

**Discounts:** Early bookers receive \$150 discount on first 15 seats and \$75 on next 10 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after April 18. BC seniors (65 & over) receive \$92 discount extended by BC Ferries and Via Rail. Deadline is April 18. You must show your BC Gold CareCard or Services Card to receive the discount when you book and also bring it with you on the tour.

**Cancellation Policy:** Up to March 22, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From March 23 to April 18, the cancellation charge is \$150 per person. From April 19 to May 22, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From May 23 to June 7, the cancellation charge is 70% of the tour fare. After June 7, there is no refund.

**Travel Insurance:** A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

 **Activity Level:** Light activity including short distances to walk and some steps, mainly the cruise boat, train and around Barkerville. The ferry has an elevator. If you think you may have difficulty participating in Activity Level 1, Wells Gray Tours recommends that you bring a companion to assist you. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

**e-points:** This tour earns 65 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until April 18.

**Consumer Protection BC Licence: #65842**