



Moul Falls



Dawson Falls

WELLS GRAY PARK

May 25, 2021 - 5 Days

Explore Canada's Waterfalls Park with the expert and author, Roland Neave.

Come and see the birthplace of Wells Gray Tours! Nicknamed 'Canada's Waterfalls Park' and 'Volcanoes Park,' Wells Gray Park is a wonderland of natural sights including Canada's 4th highest waterfall, Helmcken Falls. Late May is an excellent time to visit as the waterfalls are in full spring runoff.

The tour is directed by Roland Neave, owner of Wells Gray Tours and Wells Gray Gateway Guesthouse, and author of the popular guidebook, *Exploring Wells Gray Park*. Highlights are Helmcken Falls, Dawson Falls, Bailey's Chute, the panoramic view from Green Mountain, Moul Falls, Trophies Lodge, Spahats Falls, and an all-day boat tour on Clearwater and Azure Lakes to Rainbow Falls.

Activity Level: 3



TOUR
25

10 Meals Included:

4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners

Fares per person:

\$1,870 double/twin; \$2,135 single; \$1,790 triple
Please add 5% GST.

Experience Points:

Earn 30 points on this tour

Redeem 30 points if you book by April 8, 2021.



Clearwater Lake

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Tuesday, May 25

Transportation is provided to Victoria airport. We take an afternoon flight to Kelowna and stay overnight at the Best Western Hotel.

Day 2: Wednesday, May 26

We travel north along the Yellowhead Highway to Clearwater. After lunch, driving through the **Clearwater River Valley**, we see the extinct Pyramid Volcano and Mushroom Canyon, and tour the 1948 one-room schoolhouse. We admire a panoramic view across southern Wells Gray Park from the summit of Green Mountain. The highlight is awesome **Helmcken Falls** where the Murtle River plunges 141 metres (465 feet) over a lava cliff to form Canada's 4th highest waterfall. After dinner, Roland presents a slide show about Wells Gray Park, gleaned from over 50 years of exploring its roads and trails.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Wells Gray Inn



Day 3: Thursday, May 27

We hike to 35-metre tall **Moul Falls**. A flight of stairs leads to a thrilling view at the bottom of the waterfall. See Activity Level (next page) for more details. Next is a historical tour of **Trophies Lodge** which once catered to celebrities fishing the teeming waters of the Clearwater River. Other sights today are **Bailey's Chute**, the furthest point that spawning salmon swim up the Clearwater River; Marcus Falls, the abandoned pioneer Ray Family homestead, and the bubbling **Ray Mineral Springs**. During our return to Clearwater, we see 90-metre wide **Dawson Falls** on the Murtle River.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Wells Gray Inn

Day 4: Friday, May 28

At road's end, we board two fast jet-boats for the journey up lovely **Clearwater Lake** with splendid views of the Cariboo Mountains and **Garnet Peak**, Wells Gray Park's third highest mountain. The boats' powerful engines make easy work of the fast-flowing Clearwater River and soon we enter pristine **Azure Lake** which is 28 km long and surrounded by soaring peaks. A stroll through an old-growth cedar forest leads to **Rainbow Falls** on Angus Horne Creek, then a picnic lunch is provided at the beach. This six-hour boat excursion explores a spectacular area of Wells Gray Park that few tourists get to see, since it can only be reached by boat. Dinner is at the Painted Turtle Restaurant on the shore of Dutch Lake.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Wells Gray Inn

Day 5: Saturday, May 29

At **Spahats Falls**, we stand on the edge of a colourful 200-metre deep gorge. There are also stops at Clearwater Valley Overlook and the waterfalls of Third Canyon. The Wells Gray Park Visitor Centre is our last stop, then we travel to Kelowna airport for our evening flight home.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Wells Gray Park is a vast wilderness area of 1.3 million acres, nicknamed Canada's "Waterfalls Park" for its 41 named falls and "Volcanoes Park" for its 6 old volcanoes and vast lava flows. Late May is an excellent time to visit Wells Gray Park since the waterfalls are nearing peak runoff volumes. The tour is directed by Roland Neave, owner of Wells Gray Tours and Wells Gray Gateway Guesthouse. Roland is also the author of the guidebook *Exploring Wells Gray Park*, now in its 6th Edition, and a complimentary autographed copy of this 400-page all-colour book is yours as a souvenir of this tour.

With a small group like this, the boats can take us up Clearwater Lake, through the Clearwater River into Azure Lake, then to the beach at the east end of Azure Lake to view Rainbow Falls. This Park tour was a four-day tour for many years, offered once annually. In 2018, an extra day was added to give time for more activities, longer walks, and a more leisurely itinerary, and this will continue in 2021.

Come and see the birthplace of Wells Gray Tours! There is a connection to the Park's name, dating back 48 years. An environmental organization offered tours of Wells Gray Park in 1972 as a means of protesting BC Hydro's plans to build seven dams on the Clearwater River. Roland and some university friends were volunteer guides. From this modest beginning with a single tour route, Wells Gray Tours has evolved to offer worldwide travel.



WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Transfers to/from Victoria airport and Kelowna airport to hotel
- Flight from Victoria to Kelowna and return
- Current air transport taxes and security fees
- Coach transportation for 4 days
- 4 nights of accommodation and hotel taxes
- Copy of *Exploring Wells Gray Park*, 6th edition
- 1948 schoolhouse tour
- Trophies Lodge historic tour
- 6-hour boat excursion on Clearwater and Azure Lakes to Rainbow Falls
- Gratuities for boat crew
- Knowledgeable tour director
- **10 meals:** 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners



Activity Level 3: Moderate to rigorous activity including walking on gravel trails and uneven surfaces, stepping in and out of the boat, and spending lots of time outdoors. The longest walk is to Moul Falls which is 4 km or 2½ hours round trip with a descent of 120 metres including the stairs to the bottom of the falls. A day pack, water bottle, and hiking boots or sturdy walking shoes are essential; walking poles are recommended. Other walks are shorter: Marcus Falls (50 minutes round trip), Ray Farm (25 minutes), and Rainbow Falls (20 minutes). There are no bathrooms on the boats and the trip to Rainbow Falls is about 2 hours each way. Luggage handling is not available at the hotel. Seeing all the natural sights mentioned requires active participation. You should not book this tour if you are dependent on a walker or cane. The coach cannot carry a scooter. Prior to Wells Gray accepting your booking, you will be required to sign a declaration that you are capable of travelling on an Activity Level 3 tour. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

TOUR 25 This tour is currently limited to 16 travellers, due to Covid-19 restrictions on the boats. Please book early! If these restrictions are lifted before tour departure, a total of 24 can take this tour. A small group like this provides a more intimate travel experience.

TOUR POLICIES:

Payments: A deposit of \$150 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due April 8, 2021. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to March 8, 2021, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From March 9 to April 8, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From April 9 to May 7, the cancellation charge is 60% of the tour fare. After May 7, there is no refund.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up until the time of departure.

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 for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Home pickups may be offered in Greater Victoria, depending on the number of people booked and coach size. Decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

Photo Credits: Interior Whitewater Expeditions (Moul Falls), Roland Neave (Dawson Falls, Clearwater Lake, Helmcken Falls, Rainbow Falls, Azure Lake)

Experience Points: This tour earns 30 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 8, 2021.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842



VICTORIA

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Office Hours:

8:30 am to 4 pm
Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri
Wed 9 am to 4 pm
Closed holidays &
weekends

KAMLOOPS

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Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri
Wed 9 am to 4:30 pm
Closed holidays &
weekends

WE PLAN. YOU PACK. NO WORRIES!

www.wellsgraytours.com

1-800-667-9552

WELLS GRAY PARK — May 25, 2021

This tour is rated "Activity Level 3" by the tour planners at Wells Gray Tours. This rating is the highest activity level assigned to a tour, meaning that there is a lot of activity which could include one or more of (but is not limited to) the following:

- You can walk at a pace of 3 kilometres in 1 hour.
- You can climb into and out of a small boat.
- You can walk on beaches with sand or rock, and on boardwalks that may be wet or slippery.
- You can climb one flight of stairs to your hotel room.
- You can carry your own luggage at the hotel.

Since a few people who are not capable of doing the above activities can hold up the entire group, Wells Gray Tours expects everybody booking a tour with "Activity Level 3" to be reasonably fit. You must be able to participate in activities without the assistance of the tour director, driver or other travellers.

Please read the following and sign acknowledging that these statements are true. The tour deposit will be due after you have signed this statement.

- I want to travel on a Wells Gray tour with a rating of "Activity Level 3".
- I have read the brochure with the full itinerary and description of the activities that are typical on this tour.
- I am able to walk to Moul Falls which is 4 km or 2½ hours round trip with a descent of 120 metres including the stairs to the bottom of the falls.
- I understand that this is the highest activity level that a Wells Gray tour can be rated.
- I am confident that I can participate in tour activities at this level and I will not hold up or delay the other members of the tour.
- I do not require the use of a wheelchair or a walker.

If my physical condition changes between booking and departure date such that I can no longer do this level of activity, I will notify the Wells Gray office or agent. The specified penalties will apply for cancelling and your travel insurance may cover this.

If I am not capable of keeping up with the group or I require frequent assistance, I understand that the Wells Gray tour director has the right to not allow me to participate in some activities or some days of the tour.

This statement has been implemented by Wells Gray Tours to maintain high quality itineraries, accurate timing, and the enjoyment of all tour participants. Each person booking this tour must sign this statement. Thank you for your understanding.

Signature _____ Name _____ Date _____