



Tyax Lodge



Tyax whirlpool

TYAX LODGE

October 1, 2023 – 6 Days

A Fall Foliage Tour in the South Chilcotin

Escape to Tyax Lodge, a peaceful retreat on the shore of Tyaughton Lake with a fine view of snowy peaks. The lodge is one of the largest log buildings in western Canada and you are sure to admire its fine craftsmanship, especially the cathedral lobby with a soaring stone chimney. It was built in 1986 and totally renovated in 2010. We stay here for three nights. Nearby is Bralorne, once one of British Columbia's greatest gold mines. The fabulous Pioneer Mine produced \$140 million of gold between 1914 and 1960. A local historian accompanies us to explain the fascinating story of Bralorne, Bradian, Gold Bridge, the Haylmore Historic Site, and Gun Lake. Another highlight of this valley is the fall foliage which usually peaks in early October.

Activity Level: 1



12 Meals Included:

5 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

Fares per person:

\$2,310 double/twin; \$2,925 single; \$2,165 triple
Please add 5% GST.

Early Bookers:

\$80 discount on first 12 seats; \$40 on next 8

Experience Points:

Earn 38 points on this tour.

Redeem 38 points if you book by August 15, 2023.

Departure from: Victoria



Mowson Pond near Tyax

ITINERARY

Day 1: Sunday, October 1

An afternoon transfer is provided to Victoria Airport. We fly to Kelowna and stay overnight.

Accommodation: Hampton Inn Airport

Day 2: Monday, October 2

We meet the BC Interior passengers during pickups through the Okanagan Valley. Lunch is at historic **Ashcroft Manor**. It was built in 1862 as a stopping place for gold rush travellers and ranks as one of the oldest surviving buildings in the province. We admire the soaring cliffs of Marble Canyon, then follow the Fraser River to Lillooet. Next, our route winds through awesome 600-metre deep **Bridge River Canyon** and along Carpenter Lake which is 50 km long. Our destination is **Tyax Lodge**, a peaceful retreat on Tyaughton Lake with a fine view of snowy peaks. We stay here for all three nights of the tour. The lodge is one of the largest log buildings in western Canada and you are sure to admire its fine craftsmanship, especially the cathedral dining room with a soaring stone chimney.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Tyax Lodge



Day 3: Tuesday, October 3

Today is a free day at Tyax. After breakfast, listen to a talk about the history of Tyax and the remarkable project to build this huge log structure in such a remote place. A walk along the lakeshore trail is led by Tyax staff. Canoes, kayaks, and

paddleboards are free to use, so you may wish to explore **Tyaughton Lake**. Some outdoor games are provided such as bocce, croquet, and horseshoes. Enjoy the sauna and whirlpool or relax on the deck overlooking Tyaughton Lake. A sight-seeing float plane excursion is offered as an option (see description on page 3).

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Tyax Lodge

Day 4: Wednesday, October 4

Accompanied by a local historian, we explore **Bralorne**, once one of BC's greatest gold mines. The fabulous Pioneer Mine produced \$140 million of gold between 1914 and 1960. Our visit includes the Bralorne Museum, the abandoned town of Bradian, Haylmore Historic Site, and possibly tranquil **Gun Lake**. The fall foliage is usually outstanding during today's drive.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Tyax Lodge



Day 5: Thursday, October 5

During the drive back to Lillooet along the Bridge River, we stop at **Terzaghi Dam** which backs up Carpenter Lake, and Russell Springs. The Million Dollar Basin was extensively mined for gold during the later 19th century and is also remembered for an action movie *Flashback*, partly filmed here in 1977. We travel to Kelowna this afternoon.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hampton Inn Airport

Day 6: Friday, October 6

We fly from Kelowna to Victoria. Transportation is provided to your pickup point.

Meals included: Breakfast

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Transfers to/from Victoria Airport
- Flight from Victoria to Kelowna and return
- Current air taxes and security fees
- Coach transportation for 4 days
- 5 nights of accommodation and hotel taxes
- Historic Ashcroft Manor
- Talk about history of Tyax Lodge
- Locally-guided tour of Bralorne & Gold Bridge
- Bralorne Museum
- Haylmore Historic Site
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at Tyax
- **12 meals:** 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

SIGHTSEEING FLIGHT OPTION

October 3 is a free day to relax at Tyax Lodge and enjoy the beautiful lakeside setting as well as recreational activities. A flight over the nearby glaciers and peaks of the South Chilcotin wilderness is offered as an option. The flight is in either a Beaver floatplane for 45 minutes or a helicopter for 35 minutes. We should know which aircraft will be available (or both) in September and will contact everybody who has chosen this option. Commentary is provided by the pilot through headphones, so you won't miss any of the terrific scenery. The flight is over the South Chilcotin Mountains Park, isolated



Spruce Lake, some extinct volcanic cones, the colourful Eldorado basin, and the massive Bridge Glacier where icebergs break off the snout and float around the lake below. The Bridge Glacier is only one part of the vast Lillooet Icefield which covers 1,000 square kilometres. Mountain goats, grizzlies and moose are abundant in this region and are commonly seen during the flight. Price is \$225 per person plus GST based on minimum of five passengers per flight. If inclement weather occurs and the aircraft cannot fly, your flight cost will be refunded. Please book this option as soon as possible as flights may be limited.

TOUR NOTES

- Tyax is an impressive log lodge with only 27 rooms, of which 18 have a splendid view of Tyaughton Lake and the rest have no view. Therefore, the first 18 parties booking this tour will be assigned to the lake view rooms. We recommend early booking!
- Most Tyax rooms have 2 queen beds and a few have a king bed.
- Rooms do not have televisions. Wi-fi is available throughout the lodge.
- Rooms are on three floors. Ground floor is the middle floor on the same level as the lobby, dining room, and deck. You need to walk down one flight of stairs to go outdoors on the lake side of the lodge. Please request ground floor at time of booking. Tyax does not have an elevator. Wells Gray Tours usually fills all the lodge rooms, so changes cannot be made on arrival.
- This tour has all Tyax meals included due to the high cost of individual meals at this remote location. Meals may be served as a buffet or plated. Dinners are usually two courses — appetizer and entrée.





Activity Level 1: Light activity including short distances to walk and some stairs. Ground floor rooms on the lobby level are very limited, and there is no elevator. If you book the flight option, getting into the plane requires 3 ladder-like steps. There are many stops during this tour and you must be able to get on and off the coach by yourself without delaying your fellow travellers. The coach cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. **Everybody** participating in this tour is expected to be capable of handling Activity Level 1. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$150 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due August 15, 2023. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$80 discount on first 12 seats and \$40 on next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after August 15, 2023.

Cancellation Policy: Up to July 14, 2023, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From July 15 to August 15, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From August 16 to August 31, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. After August 31, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Due to continuing after effects of the pandemic, sometimes we are notified about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a tour component due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges and changes to taxes or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to 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.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. Tyax is very remote and the chef may not be able to satisfy all food allergies. Please do not tell us about your food preferences, as restaurants ignore these requests. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what Tyax and other restaurants are able to serve.

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: Tyax Lodge (1st page, top photos), Roland Neave (Mowson Pond, dining room, Bradian), Tyax Air (glacier), Marion Wienhold (Tyax deck)

Experience Points: This tour earns 38 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 August 15, 2023.

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

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