

GHOST TOWNS OF THE KOOTENAYS

September/October 2024


WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience



Three Valley Lake Chateau

Three Valley Gap, Nelson, Kaslo & Sandon

This is another of Wells Gray's popular themed tours. During five days, we visit ghost towns such as Retallack and Sandon, as well as a created one at Three Valley Gap, and historic towns like Revelstoke, Kaslo, Nelson, and Greenwood. Unique experiences include a ride on Nelson's heritage Streetcar #23, expert historians in Nelson and Sandon, 3 nights at Nelson's heritage Hume Hotel, and the 1897 powerhouse at Sandon. Guides are hired at each attraction or town to explain the historical details as only a local person can do. Come and join us on this exciting tour with a ghostly twist!



CANADIAN



ACTIVITY LEVEL

► Fares per person

from **\$1,795** double/twin, **\$2,205** single*

**pricing details for all departures provided on Page 2*

► Early Booking Bonus

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

► Earn 42 Experience Points

► Departure from:

BC Interior, Vancouver Island & Lower Mainland



Sandon 1897

DEPARTURE POINTS & DATES

- I BC Interior:** October 1, 2024 - 5 Days
- V Vancouver Island:** September 30, 2024 - 7 Days
- L Lower Mainland:** September 30, 2024 - 7 Days



Your specific departure point will be confirmed at the time of booking. Passengers travelling from the BC Interior, Vancouver Island & Lower Mainland regions will begin and end the tour as follows:

- I BC Interior:** We depart from communities in the BC Interior on Tuesday, October 1 and return home on Saturday, October 5. Transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back again when we return.
- V Vancouver Island:** We fly from Victoria, Nanaimo or Comox to Kelowna on Monday, September 30 and overnight at the Hampton Inn YLW prior to being picked up by the main coach on Tuesday, October 1. We return on October 5, overnight in Kelowna once again, then fly back to Vancouver Island on October 6. For passengers in the Greater Victoria Area, transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back when we return. Transportation is not provided to/from Nanaimo or Comox Airports.
Note: Depending on the number of people booked and coach size, home pickups may be offered. The decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.
- L Lower Mainland:** We fly from Vancouver to Kelowna on Monday, September 30 and overnight at the Hampton Inn YLW prior to being picked up by the main coach on Tuesday, October 1. We return on October 5, overnight in Kelowna once again, then fly back to Vancouver on October 6. For passengers in the Greater Vancouver Area, transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back when we return. Transportation is not provided from/to Abbotsford or Chilliwack.
Note: Home pick up may be arranged at time of booking for passengers in the Greater Vancouver Area.

FARES PER PERSON

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
I	BC Interior	\$1,795 double/twin \$2,205 single \$1,660 triple	
V	Vancouver Island	\$2,535 double/twin \$3,110 single \$2,355 triple	• Please add 5% GST
L	Lower Mainland	\$2,485 double/twin \$3,060 single \$2,305 triple	

WHAT'S INCLUDED

► Meals

- ① **12 total:** 4 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners
- VL **14 total:** 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners

► Transportation

- VL Transfers to/from Victoria or Vancouver Airports for passengers in the Greater Vancouver or Greater Victoria Areas
- Coach transportation for 5 days

► Accommodation

- ① 4 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- VL 6 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Luggage handling at hotels

► Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

► Key Highlights

- Locally-guided tour of Revelstoke
- Revelstoke Railway Museum
- Three Valley Gap ghost town, roundhouse and auto museum
- Nikkei Memorial Internment Centre
- SS Moyie sternwheeler
- Local guide in Kaslo, Sandon and area
- Sandon ghost town tour
- Silversmith Powerhouse Historic Site
- Ride on Nelson's Streetcar #23
- Locally-guided tour of Nelson heritage
- Greenwood Museum and guide

► Guides & Gratuities

- Gratuities for local guides & streetcar



Activity Level 2

Moderate Activity: As a traveller you like a variety of activities and walking up to 2 km with breaks such as on a guided walking tour is very doable for you without assistance. Walking tours are conducted at Three Valley Gap, Sandon, Nelson, and Greenwood at an easy pace; expect some stairs at Nikkei, SS Moyie, and the streetcar. You may bring a cane or walking poles if needed. The coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. 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.



Tour Size 40

This tour is limited to 40 participants.





SS Moyie

ITINERARY

- Monday, September 30** Passengers from the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island fly to Kelowna and overnight at the Hampton Inn YLW.
Accommodation: **V L** Hampton Inn YLW
- Tuesday, October 1** We head through Eagle Pass to Revelstoke and learn about its interesting buildings from a local guide. Afterward, we visit the **Railway Museum** which has a fascinating collection of exhibits about the CPR. We stay overnight at **Three Valley Lake Chateau**. The adjoining ghost town is full of authentic buildings moved here from other sites. After visiting the antique auto museum and railway roundhouse, we enjoy a barbecue dinner served in one of the old buildings.
Meals included: **I** Lunch, Dinner **V L** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Three Valley Lake Chateau
- Wednesday, October 2** We take the ferry across the **Arrow Lakes** to Galena Bay, passing the flooded sites of lost towns such as Beaton and Arrowhead. In New Denver on Slocan Lake, we explore the fascinating **Nikkei Memorial Internment Centre**, the only interpretive centre in Canada dedicated to the history of the uprooting and internment of over 22,000 Canadians of Japanese heritage during World War II. The centre is situated at one of ten Canadian internment communities. Of special interest is the garden, designed by Roy Sumi at the age of 87. He had designed other Japanese gardens in Canada and, for many years, supervised the Nitobe Garden at UBC. We stay three nights at Nelson's **Hume Hotel**, a downtown landmark which opened in 1898.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Hume Hotel, Nelson
- Thursday, October 3** A Kootenays historian joins us for the day to provide expert commentary about the many heritage sights. We pass the fabulous Blaylock Mansion, built by the president of Cominco in 1934 and sometimes called the finest example of Tudor architecture in North America. In **Kaslo**, we tour the restored sternwheeler **SS Moyie** which once plied Kootenay Lake. We pass the ghost towns of Retallack and Three Forks, while following the tortuous route of the once-busy Kaslo & Slocan Railway to reach **Sandon**. In the 1890s, when silver was king, Sandon was a boomtown with a population of 5,000, two newspapers, 24 hotels, 23 saloons, and three railways. It was incorporated as a city in 1898 and remained the soul of the silvery Slocan for half a century. Our guide shares stories of Sandon during a walking tour. The **Silversmith Powerhouse** is a fascinating look back at old technology, now preserved as a Historic Site. Perhaps you can sense the presence of "Headless Eric", Sandon's longtime ghost, who sometimes occupies a rocking chair on his favourite porch.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation: Hume Hotel, Nelson
- Friday, October 4** In **Nelson**, we ride the restored Streetcar #23 which was built in 1906, served Nelson residents from 1924 to 1949, then became a dog kennel for 33 years. A local historian leads a walking and driving tour through downtown Nelson where buildings less than a century old are considered "modern".
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Hume Hotel, Nelson

ITINERARY continued

Saturday, October 5

In Grand Forks, we pass the Averill Mansion, built in the Queen Anne style in 1895. **Greenwood** once boasted 7,000 inhabitants at the turn of the 20th century when copper, gold, and silver poured from its smelter. A local guide points out surviving landmarks such as the city hall, courthouse, and smelter chimney. We head home to the BC Interior via the Kettle Valley. Passengers from Vancouver and Vancouver Island overnight at Hampton Inn YLW.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: **V L** Hampton Inn YLW

Sunday, October 6

Passengers from the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island fly home.

Meals included: **V L** Breakfast

TOUR NOTES & POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$150 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due August 7, 2024. 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.

Early booking bonus: Receive a \$80 discount on the first 12 seats and \$40 on the next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after August 7, 2024.

Cancellation Policy: Up to July 5, 2024, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From July 6 to August 7, the cancellation charge is \$150 per person (your deposit). From August 8 to August 29, the cancellation charge is 60% of the tour fare. After August 29, 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, we reserve the right to increase fares due to changes up until the time of departure.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to some remote places where restaurants 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 restaurants are able to serve.

V L Flight delays due to weather: In the event flights are delayed or cancelled by airlines due to weather, there may be additional costs to you. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. will not pay for hotel rooms and meals during the delay. Most travel insurance policies cover expenses incurred for weather delays.

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. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details.

Photo Credits: Three Valley Lake Chateau, BC Archives (Sandon), Ainsworth Hot Springs, Adobe Stock (Nelson), Nelson Kootenay Lake Tourism (SS Moyie), and Hume Hotel.

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 42 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn e-points that are added to your account after the tour returns. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your earned points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until August 7, 2024.

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

WE PLAN.
YOU PACK.
NO WORRIES!

www.wellsgraytours.com
1-800-667-9552



Our offices are open for walk-in traffic or by appointment

KAMLOOPS

Head Office
250 Lansdowne St.
Kamloops, BC
V2C 1X7
250-374-0831

KELOWNA

2575 Richter St.
Kelowna, BC
V1Y 2R1
250-762-3435

VERNON

3206 35th St.
Vernon, BC
V1T 6B7
250-545-9197

PENTICTON

159 Wade Ave East
Penticton, BC
V2A 8B6
250-493-1255

VICTORIA

102-736 Broughton St.
Victoria, BC
V8W 1E1
250-590-7889

Your Tour Experience

PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

ACCOMMODATIONS: The hotels named in the tour descriptions are confirmed at the time the brochure is printed. It is very unusual for changes to occur, but clients will be notified whenever possible.

- **Hotel Lists:** Your ticket package contains a hotel list, which gives the hotel name, address, and phone number. You can leave this list with family/friends so you can be contacted while on your tour.

- **Special rooming requests:** If you wish to have a ground floor room where there is no elevator, a lower floor room in a high-rise hotel, or a room adjacent to another traveller, please make this request at the time you book your tour. Although we make every effort to confirm your request by passing the information onto the hotels, it cannot be guaranteed.

- **Class of Room:** Our choice of accommodation is in the deluxe to first class range. We try to strike a happy medium by maintaining a high standard of hotels while keeping a close eye on costs. Most hotels we use are members of the National Tour Association or approved by the Canadian or American Automobile Association. AAA rating is usually ♦♦♦ or better.

ROOM PARTNERS: Our reservation system tracks partner requests, and you can add your name to our partner request list, or we can provide you with the name and phone number of a possible partner. Together you can decide if you are compatible and would like to travel together.

SINGLES: Some hotels limit the number of single rooms assigned to each group, so people travelling alone should make reservations early. On a full tour, singles are requested to sit with other singles on the coach, so that travelling companions can sit together.

SEAT ROTATION: This is mandatory on all tours, and your tour director will describe the pattern and the frequency of the moves. For fairness to other clients, exceptions will not be made.

BOARDING PASS: Your ticket package contains a boarding pass which we request you fill out and give to the tour director upon departure. This contains essential information that the tour director would require in case of an emergency. Note that these are shredded after the tour returns to protect your privacy.

SMOKING POLICY: All motorcoaches are non-smoking, but rest stops are frequent. If smoking outdoors, please be considerate of those clients who may have allergies to smoke. Also note that many hotels are entirely non-smoking.

FOOD ALLERGIES: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. Some tours go to remote places where restaurants 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 restaurants are able to serve.

ITINERARY NOTES: Some tours have choices for attractions or accommodation, and sometimes there are attractions that are at an additional cost and listed as optional. Please choose these options when you book your tour as some are limited in space. If you wish to leave the tour at any time to visit friends and family, you are certainly welcome to do so. Please ensure that the tour director is informed and note that Wells Gray Tours Ltd. will not make a refund for any missed or unused portions of the tour package.

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you require ongoing assistance in any way, you must be accompanied by a travelling companion who will be fully responsible for your needs while on tour. Your tour director cannot provide ongoing assistance. Some tours may not be suitable due to the level of activity, so please discuss your needs with us when you book your tour. Please note that coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair.

DEPARTURE TIMES: We suggest that you arrive at your departure point no later than 15 minutes prior to the time shown on your ticket. The first day of a tour usually has many stops for client pick up. Please turn on your cell phone so the tour director can notify you if the coach is late.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Insurance is **not included** in tour fares, but it is available for purchase. We strongly recommend purchasing insurance to protect the non-refundable portion of your fare and to provide coverage for unexpected events. Our policies are underwritten by AIG Insurance Company of Canada. Policy must be purchased no later than the time of final payment. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause as relates to cancellation, upgrade, or trip interruption. A detailed brochure is available. Premiums are always subject to change until paid as insurance companies can change premiums without notice.

GRATUITIES: Gratuities are at your discretion; however, they are a significant portion of income for these professionals. Please use local currency. The following are guidelines:

- **Tour director and coach driver:** \$7 CAD per person per day to the tour director and \$5 per person per day to the driver. Please do not start a group collection. The most discreet method is to place the tip in an envelope and on the final day either hand it to the tour director or driver or leave it on her/his seat.

- **Meals:** In Canada and the USA, 15-20% of the pre-tax bill; note: For included meals, gratuities have been included.

- **Housekeeping staff:** \$2 per person per night local currency.

- **Luggage handling:** \$2 per bag. Note: Tip for one piece of luggage at hotel is usually included.

- **Transfer driver with luggage handling:** \$2 per person.

LOST ITEMS: Clients disembarking at the end of a tour are urged to check that they have all their personal belongings with them. Lost items are usually held in Kamloops or Victoria Wells Gray offices.

CURRENCY: Your credit card is a convenient way to pay for many meals and purchases. ATMs are easily accessible in Canada and the USA but may be difficult to find in other countries. You should also carry some cash with you in the currency of that country for gratuities and in case credit cards cannot be used.

LUGGAGE: The limit per person is one large suitcase, weighing no more than 50 lbs., and a small carry-on bag. A luggage tag is included in your ticket package. The Wells Gray tag is essential for the efficient handling of bags at hotels. Please attach the completed tag to your suitcase before arriving at your departure point. If you are on a cruise, please do not attach your cruise luggage tag until the morning of embarkation. Airlines charge a fee for checked luggage on Canada and USA flights. This is included in your tour fare if the airline allows Wells Gray to prepay this fee, but if payment is required at the airport, you must pay this directly to the airline at check-in.

COMMENT SHEETS: We always strive to improve, and comments from our customers are very important. Your tour director will hand out a comment sheet during the tour (with a confidential envelope if desired), so you can tell us what you think. To maintain a high standard of service, Wells Gray management reads every client's comments and discusses any problems and praises with the hotels, motorcoach company, other suppliers, and our staff.

TOUR PACKAGE: Your tour price includes all items listed in the "What's Included" section in the tour brochure. GST on applicable tours is extra.

Terms & Conditions

PAYMENTS: A deposit is required within three days of booking and is outlined in each tour brochure. If a deposit or balance becomes overdue and we cannot contact you, your reservation will be cancelled. By placing a deposit, you agree to the Terms and Conditions. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard (\$5,000 limit per person on credit cards). If your cheque payment returns as 'non-sufficient funds', Wells Gray Tours Ltd. must charge you a \$25 NSF fee.

CANCELLATIONS: The cancellation policy for each tour is described in detail in the tour brochure. If you cancel after the final payment date, without paying in full, you forfeit the full deposit paid.

CONSUMER PROTECTION: In British Columbia, Consumer Protection BC requires that any business or organization that collects advance deposits from people for future travel must be registered with the government and must hold those deposits in trust. This protects consumer deposits in the unlikely event of bankruptcy. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. is also a member in good standing of the National Tour Association, which requires its members to carry at least \$1 million in professional liability, errors, and omission insurance.

BORDER CROSSING: For any travel outside of Canada, a valid passport is required. Passport numbers and expiry dates are required in advance for many tours, and this information will be collected before final payment. Clients are responsible for ensuring that they have valid documentation for all border crossings. Clients without valid documents may be detained by Customs Officers and therefore miss their tour. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. cannot assume responsibility for portions of a tour missed due to improper documentation.

ROOM PARTNERS: Wells Gray Tours Ltd. cannot assume responsibility for added costs due to disagreements encountered while travelling or for cancellations by one party of a double or twin accommodation room prior to departure.

LUGGAGE & LOST ITEMS: Luggage insurance is not included in your fare. Please note that neither Wells Gray Tours Ltd. nor the motorcoach company can assume responsibility for lost or damaged luggage or its contents.

ITINERARY: Expect the unexpected. If you are unable to participate in all aspects of the itinerary, Wells Gray Tours Ltd. will not issue a refund or provide a fare reduction for any missed or unused portions of the tour package. If any unforeseen delays, cancellations, changes, or add-ons happen that are beyond Wells Gray Tours control, (or by customer choice) there may be extra costs involved that may be passed onto you, the client, after the trip returns. There is no guarantee of refunds or reimbursements.

EXPERIENCE POINTS: Each time you travel with Wells Gray Tours, you earn Experience Points (e-points). The number of e-points you earn is written on the front page of each tour brochure. Your e-points will be awarded to you after your tour returns and can then be redeemed on future tours. E-Points must be earned before they can be redeemed. 1 e-point is equivalent to \$1.00.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Wells Gray Tours Ltd. and its designated tour director reserve the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof and to use the resulting photography or videos for promotion on Facebook, the Wells Gray Tours Ltd. website or for other commercial uses. By making a reservation with Wells Gray Tours Ltd., you agree to allow your likeness to be used by Wells Gray Tours Ltd. without compensation to you. If you prefer that your likeness not be used, please notify us in writing at final payment, or give a note to the tour director on the first day.

CHANGES TO FARES: Due to the uncertainties of inflation, fuel surcharges, taxes and foreign exchange, Wells Gray Tours Ltd. reserves the right to modify tour fares in the event of cost changes.

COVID-19: Some countries we are visiting may require all tour participants to be tested for Covid-19 prior to departure and/or be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at least 14 days prior to departure. You are responsible for ensuring you meet the requirements for the countries they you are visiting. **Expect changes to the itinerary.** It may not be possible to communicate changes ahead of departure.

FACE MASK REQUIREMENTS: Although it is not mandatory, Wells Gray Tours strongly encourages everyone to wear a face mask at airports, in public places, and onboard motor coaches, ships and airplanes. If you unfortunately become ill with Covid-19, you can still ride on the coaches in the rear seat, but you must wear a KN-95 or N-95 mask.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS: Wells Gray Tours Ltd. has no special knowledge regarding the financial condition of any supplier or the existence of unsafe conditions, health hazards, weather hazards, political conditions, or climate extremes at locations to which you may travel. For information about these concerns, we recommend contacting the Travel Advice Section of the Government of Canada website at travel.gc.ca. For public-health information, we recommend contacting the BC Centers for Disease Control at 604-707-2400 or bccdc.ca. The responsibility for checking and verifying all passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destination(s) and all conditions regarding health, safety, security, political stability, and labour or civil unrest at such destination(s) solely belongs to the traveller. Each tour has many suppliers, each with their own policies or rules which you are expected to abide by while on their premises. It is extremely rare, but suppliers can close unexpectedly overnight or declare bankruptcy. Funds that we have deposited with them on your behalf may not be recoverable and therefore not refundable to you.

PRIVACY: Information collected by Wells Gray Tours Ltd. for purposes of the tour or marketing or to assist attending personnel in the event of an emergency is confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties.

FORCE MAJEURE: In the circumstances amounting to force majeure, Wells Gray Tours will not be required to refund any money to you, although if Wells Gray Tours can recover any monies from our suppliers, we will refund these to you. Suppliers may choose to provide travel vouchers or credits in lieu of refund. Wells Gray Tours is not responsible for a supplier's failure to pay a refund.

RESPONSIBILITY

Neither Wells Gray Tours Ltd., nor any of its agents or representatives shall be held liable or responsible directly or indirectly for any delay, injury, loss or damage to any person or property, occasioned by the neglect or default of any person or company providing transportation, accommodation or any other services in connection with these tours, or damages resulting directly or indirectly from act of God, sickness, strike, quarantine, weather, government restraints, machinery breakdown, or any other cause beyond our control. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. acts as an agent for its suppliers, including but not limited to companies providing transportation, accommodation, and other services rendered. The right is reserved to withdraw all, or part of any tour should conditions warrant and make such alterations in the itinerary as may be found necessary for the convenience and proper operation of any tour, without penalty.