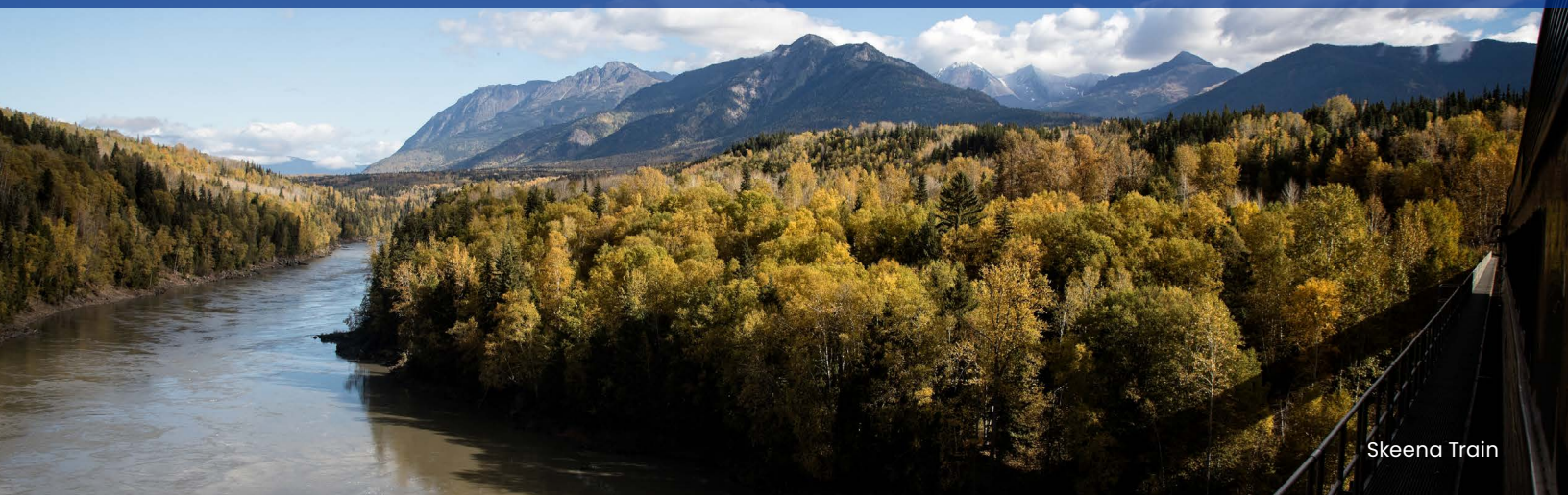
INSIDE PASSAGE & SKEENA TRAIN

June 2027

WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience


Skeena Train

Includes grizzly bear watching at Khutzeymateen Sanctuary

Discover the spectacular beauty of British Columbia's North Coast by land and sea on this unforgettable circle tour. Settle in aboard BC Ferries' *Northern Expedition* for a 16½-hour journey from Port Hardy to Prince Rupert, travelling 500 kilometres along a rugged coastline where you can watch for wildlife and admire the scenery, mostly in daylight. In Prince Rupert, venture by catamaran to the Khutzeymateen Grizzly Sanctuary for a seven-hour excursion in search of grizzly bears in their natural habitat, then step back in time at the restored North Pacific Cannery. Continue inland aboard VIA Rail's *Skeena Train*, enjoying a spectacular journey through the Coast Mountains to Houston. You'll also explore Fort St. James National Historic Site and wander through Barkerville, a beautifully restored gold rush town that brings British Columbia's gold rush history to life. From coastal wildlife and scenic rail travel to fascinating heritage sites, this is a wonderful way to experience the diverse landscapes and history of our province.

RAIL TOUR

2
ACTIVITY LEVEL

Departure from:

- **BC Interior:** June 11, 2027 - 9 days
- **Lower Mainland:** June 11, 2027 - 9 days

Fares per person

from **$4,285** double/twin, **$5,175** single*

**Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.*

Earn 106 Experience Points



Providing Quality Packaged Travel Since 1972

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Meals

- **I 14 total:** 5 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 2 dinners
- **L 13 total:** 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 2 dinners

Transportation

- Coach transportation for 9 days
- Ferry from Tsawwassen to Nanaimo
- *Northern Expedition* ferry through Inside Passage from Port Hardy to Prince Rupert
- L Flight from Kelowna to Vancouver Airport
- L Current air taxes & fees

Accommodation

- 8 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Luggage handling at most hotels

Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

Key Highlights

- Reserved seat in the ferry's Aurora Lounge
- 7-hour boat excursion to Khutzeymateen Sanctuary for grizzly bear viewing
- North Pacific Cannery Museum with guides
- Museum of Northern British Columbia with guide
- VIA Rail Skeena train from Prince Rupert to Houston
- Fort St. James National Historic Site with Parks Canada program
- Historian on coach from Quesnel to Barkerville
- Barkerville Historic Town
- Theatre Royal show
- Ashcroft Manor

Attractions are subject to change. Please see Terms & Conditions for more information.

Gratuities

- Gratuities for local guides & boat crew

FARES PER PERSON

Grizzly Bear

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
I	BC Interior	**$4,285** double/twin **$5,175** single **$3,720** triple	• Please add 5% GST. • **BC Seniors from (65 & over):** $56 discount with BC Services card.
L	Lower Mainland	**$4,680** double/twin **$5,570** single **$4,115** triple	

Activity Level 2

Moderate Activity: As a traveller you like a variety of activities and walking up to 2 km with breaks such as a guided walking tour is very doable for you without assistance. You can stand for prolonged periods, negotiate moderate hills comfortably, and can climb two flights of stairs without assistance. There is lots of walking to see everything in Fort St. James and Barkerville. There are steep steps on and off the train. The ferry has an elevator. Luggage service is not available in Port Hardy and Fort St. James.

You may bring a cane or walking poles if needed. This tour is not appropriate for people who require the use of a walker. The coach 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 cannot keep 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 can accommodate 40 participants.

ITINERARY

Friday, June 11

Your departure point will be discussed at the time of booking. We ride the ferry to Nanaimo and stay overnight.
Meals included: Lunch (BC Interior)
Accommodation: Coast Bastion Hotel

Saturday, June 12

We drive north on the Island Highway through Campbell River to **Port Hardy.**
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Kwa'lilas Hotel

Sunday, June 13

The ***Northern Expedition*** departs Port Hardy for a 16½-hour scenic voyage through the **Inside Passage**. Along 500 kilometres of magnificent coastline, we pass hundreds of islands and waterfalls, and watch for wildlife such as bald eagles, porpoises, or whales. Highlights are the narrows at Bella Bella, Princess Royal Channel, and the long canal-like Grenville Channel. Enjoy a comfortable reserved seat in the private, key-access Aurora Lounge for the whole voyage. On arrival at **Prince Rupert**, we stay three nights at the Crest Hotel, the finest in the city.

Cabin option: You can purchase an outside ferry cabin for $175 or inside cabin for $145 (per cabin), if available. Prices may increase in 2027. Each is equipped with two berths, sink, toilet, and shower. Please request when you book this tour.

Accommodation: Crest Hotel

Monday, June 14

Sleep in this morning after our long voyage on the Inside Passage. Then, we board a 22-metre catamaran for a seven-hour excursion to the **Khutzeymateen Grizzly Sanctuary** which preserves one of the largest populations of grizzly bears in BC. The vessel has lots of outdoor deck space and floor-to-ceiling windows for excellent wildlife viewing. We travel north through Chatham Sound, listening to fascinating stories about Indigenous communities 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.
Meals included: Lunch
Accommodation: Crest Hotel

Tuesday, June 15

We drive to Port Edward on the Skeena River and take a guided tour of the restored **North Pacific Cannery**, which was built in 1889 and operated as a commercial salmon cannery until 1968. This afternoon, we admire the wonderful exhibits at the **Museum of Northern British Columbia** with the benefit of a docent.
Meals included: Lunch
Accommodation: Crest Hotel

Wednesday, June 16

VIA Rail's Skeena Train offers an awesome eight-hour journey as we follow the broad Skeena River and the rushing Bulkley River through the **Coast Mountains** to Houston. We continue by coach on the Yellowhead Highway. Dinner is in Vanderhoof and we stay overnight in Fort St. James.
Meals included: Breakfast, Box Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: View Hotel

Thursday, June 17

Originally established by Simon Fraser for the North West Company in 1806, **Fort St. James** displays the largest group of original wooden buildings representing the fur trade in Canada. Now preserved as a National Historic Site and operated as a living history museum, the fort is a fascinating glimpse into the past. We continue to Prince George, then join the **Cariboo Highway** to Quesnel.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation: Billy Barker Hotel

Friday, June 18

We enjoy commentary from an expert historian during the drive from Quesnel to **Barkerville**. This is BC's largest restored heritage town and offers plenty to do today — hear about Cariboo justice from Judge Begbie, watch gold being cleaned at

the Cornish waterwheel, attend a service at St. Saviour's, or speak with a costumed interpreter portraying an 1880s character. The afternoon show at the **Theatre Royal** is an hour of lively music and songs, funny stories of the gold rush, and great entertainment.
Meals included: Breakfast
Accommodation: Billy Barker Hotel

Saturday, June 19

We follow the Cariboo Highway to Cache Creek, hearing more stories about the gold rush and pioneer characters. We stop for lunch at **Ashcroft Manor**, a roadhouse built in 1862 to serve travellers on the Cariboo Wagon Road. In the afternoon, we travel through Kamloops to the Okanagan. A flight is arranged for Lower Mainland customers from Kelowna to Vancouver.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

NORTHERN EXPEDITION

BC 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 Port Hardy to Prince Rupert takes 16½ hours, almost 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.



TOUR NOTES

Please Book Early! Unsold ferry and train space must be released on April 15, 2027. 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.

VIA Rail's Skeena Train: Seating is in Economy, which is the only class offered, but there is a dome car with open (unreserved) seating. We ride on the train as far as Houston and continue by coach because the train usually runs late for the last 300 km into Prince George due to many freight trains. Your luggage travels conveniently on the coach today.

Accommodation: There are limited accommodation choices in northern BC. For instance, there is only one hotel in Fort St. James, so please do not expect luxury lodging.

Photo ID: You must bring government-issued photo ID, otherwise you will not be allowed to board the ferry or the train.

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. 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.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of $300 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due April 7, 2027. By paying the deposit, you agree to the **Terms and Conditions, Company Policies**, Activity Level, and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (3% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard.

Seniors Discount: BC seniors (65 & over) receive a $56 discount extended by BC Ferries. You must show your BC government-issued ID to receive the discount and board the ferry.

Cancellation Policy:

- Up to March 8, 2027, the cancellation charge is $100 per person.
- From March 9 to April 7, the cancellation charge is $200 per person.
- From April 8 to May 7, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare.
- After May 7, there is no refund.

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by battleface® travel insurance. 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. This tour stays in British Columbia. While your BC Services Card may cover you for a medical issue that arises during the tour, you will probably benefit from trip cancellation and trip interruption coverage in case of illness or a mishap before or during the tour. Many other benefits such as luggage insurance are included. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details. If you have your own travel insurance, please read the policy carefully to be sure that you are adequately covered for cancellation, interruption, and luggage. Insurance premiums are not refundable whether or not you make a claim.

Photo Credits: VIA Rail (Skeena Train), Prince Rupert Adventure Tours (Grizzly Bear), and Wikimedia (*Northern Expedition*).

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 106 Experience Points or e-points. Redeem up to 106 of your earned e-points from a previous tour until April 7, 2027. Please see loyalty rewards on our website for more information about e-points.

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

For information on itinerary changes, fare changes, and more, please see our Terms, Conditions, and Company Policies.

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 E
Penticton, BC V2A 8B6
250-493-1255

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

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