



CANADA

WILD CANADA SELF-DRIVE (TOUR CODE: 11836)

STARTS AND ENDS

in Vancouver

TRAVEL PERIODS

21 May 25 - 10 Oct 25

EXPERIENCE

Indigenous
Wildlife
Self-Drive

TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Be captivated by the unrivalled beauty of Vancouver Island's scenery on this 7-day self-drive adventure in the remote wilderness.

Highlights

- Experience unique bearviewing at Knight Inlet Lodge, a floating resort in the tranquil waters of Glendale Cove
- Perfect self-drive experience for nature lovers and wildlife enthusiasts alike
- Freedom of Choice days in both Tofino and Victoria
- Cruise through the pristine waters of Clayoquot Sound to view beautiful scenery and wildlife

Your Wild Canada adventure begins in the urban oasis of Vancouver, a haven of art, culture, food and nature. From Vancouver, you will pick up your rental car and depart for Campbell River. Along the way, you will pass by Nanaimo, also known as the Harbour City and the seaside town of Parksville. You will then spend the night in Campbell River, the "Salmon Capital of the World".

Your next destination is Knight Inlet Lodge. Fly 30 minutes by float plane to Knight Inlet, a remote fjord and a natural habitat of the grizzly bear. Next, head south west to Tofino on the rugged West Coast. During your time in Tofino, you will have the choice of coastal bear watching or a whale watching cruise. Your final stop before heading back to Vancouver is Victoria, British Columbia's capital city. You can explore the wonderful floral display at Butchart Gardens or eat like a Canadian on a food tour!



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 1 night in Campbell River at the Comfort Inn & Suites
- 1 night at Knight Inlet Lodge
- 2 nights in Ucluelet at Black Rock Resort
- 2 nights in Victoria at Inn at Laurel Point
- Return Floatplane from Campbell River to Knight Inlet
- Return BC Ferries to Vancouver Island
- 7 days intermediate size car rental
- Meals included as per itinerary

Freedom of Choice Days

Freedom of Choice



Our Freedom of Choice program offers flexibility, by allowing you to choose from different options on pre-selected days.

Our per person price includes one tour on each Freedom of Choice day, as follows:

- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 4
- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 6

Expand the itinerary below for more details.

Please note, if more than one room is selected during the booking process, our team will contact you afterwards to discuss options.

ITINERARY

Day **1**

Vancouver Campbell River

Depart Vancouver for Horseshoe Bay and sail on BC Ferries to Vancouver Island. Upon departing BC Ferries head north through Vancouver Island's second largest city, Nanaimo, known as the Harbour City, and Parksville, the beginning of Beach Country and home of the annual International Sandcastle Competition. Your destination today is the city of Campbell River, historically renowned as the "Salmon Capital of the World," lying at the heart of neighbouring Strathcona Park, Desolation Sound, Mount Washington and Robson Bight. Surrounded by the backdrop of Strathcona Provincial Park to the west and the Coastal Mountain range to the east, massive cruise ships pass right by Campbell River's doorstep, and their parade of lights is best viewed from world-famous Discovery Pier as they venture up the Inside Passage for Alaskan destinations.



Day **2**

Campbell River Knight Inlet Lodge

Today's destination, Knight Inlet Lodge, is not accessible by road, so you'll fly in by floatplane from Campbell River. A thrilling 30-minute flight brings you to the mouth of the Glendale River where Knight Inlet Lodge floats on large cedar booms. Bring your camera - you'll be going on a bear watching and wildlife viewing tour in search of the grizzly bears that frequent this area.

Overnight at **Knight Inlet Lodge**

Knight Inlet Lodge Inclusions:

- *Interpretive guided bear viewing tours*
- *Knight Inlet sightseeing cruise (weather permitting, no substitute)*
- *Use of kayaks on organised estuary tours*
- *All meals and snacks while at the lodge*
- *Complimentary house wine with dinner*
- *Rain gear if required: rubber boots, coats, pants*

Lunch, Dinner



Day **3** Knight Inlet Lodge Tofino/Ucluelet

Early this morning, enjoy a bear viewing experience for a last photo opportunity before departing for Campbell River by floatplane. Collect your car and head south west to Tofino on the rugged West Coast. En route, picture stops should be made at Cathedral Grove to enjoy the splendour of 800-year-old Douglas Fir and Cedar and the Mars Water-Bombers at Sproat Lake, the world's two largest water-bombers used for the sole purpose of putting out forest fires. After the Mars Water-Bombers, drive through the majestic Sutton Pass and the Sawtooth Range of the Cascade Mountains to arrive in Tofino around mid-afternoon.

Overnight in Ucluelet at **Black Rock Oceanfront Resort**

Breakfast



Day **4** Tofino/Ucluelet

Today you can personalise your day with a pre-selected tour from our **Freedom of Choice** options below.

Overnight in Ucluelet at **Black Rock Oceanfront Resort**

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Coastal Bear Watch Cruise:**

Search for foraging bears from the comfort and safety of a 24' Zodiac vessel. Abundant on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, black bears roam the shores at low tide in search of their favourite delicacy, the Rock Crab.

OR

- **Whale Watching Cruise:**

Cruise through the pristine waters of Clayoquot Sound to view beautiful scenery and wildlife. Depending on the time of year, you may encounter grey whales, humpback whales, sea lions, sea birds and resident bald eagles.



Day **5**

Tofino/Ucluelet Victoria

Travel back to the East Coast of Vancouver Island and head south to Victoria. En route stops should be made at the artist community of Chemainus, where you can admire the giant murals which adorn the exterior walls throughout the town, and Duncan the "City of Totems". If time permits visit the Quw'utsun' Heritage Village which provides you with an insight into the lives of the northwest coast people (seasonal hours - admission not included).

Overnight in Victoria at **Inn at Laurel Point**



Day **6**

Victoria

It's time to explore Victoria with a pre-selected tour from our **Freedom of Choice** options below.

Overnight in Victoria at **Inn at Laurel Point**

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Butchart Gardens Admission:**

On its 100th birthday in 2004, the Butchart Gardens was named a National Historic Site of Canada. Explore 22 hectares/55 acres of breathtaking gardens on the 53-hectare/130-acre estate.

OR

- **Eat like a Canadian Food Tour:**

Not many people can define exactly what Canadian food is. From local ingredients to historic dishes, this tour is the best way to experience Canadian culinary culture. Sip and savour local cuisine, explore the iconic Inner Harbour, and meet the chefs and owners that make Victoria such an exciting culinary hot spot.



BUTCHART GARDENS

Day 7

Victoria Vancouver

Leaving Victoria, drive north to Swartz Bay Ferry Terminal for a 90-minute ferry ride to Tsawwassen. On-board BC Ferries enjoy the scenery of the Gulf Islands as you cross the Strait of Georgia. From Tsawwassen, continue on to downtown Vancouver where your self-drive package ends.



VICTORIA

ACCOMMODATION

Comfort Inn & Suites

Campbell River

Located on the waterfront in downtown Campbell River, the Comfort Inn & Suites offers unparalleled comfort in distinctive, West Coast style. After enjoying a great night's sleep in our 100% smoke-free hotel, power up your morning with a free hot breakfast, admire the ocean views from your

spacious suite or start your day with a soak in our indoor pool and hot tub. You can even bring your pet – to the hotel, not the pool! All of our hotel rooms and suites feature free Wi-Fi, phone calls within North America, flat-screen HDTV, mini-fridge, microwave and coffee maker. Plus, at our complimentary business centre, you can print out boarding passes and more. Whether you're searching hotels in Campbell River for business or pleasure, our hotel is your perfect base for discovering the abundant pleasures and hidden treasures of northern Vancouver Island.



Knight Inlet Lodge

Knight Inlet

Situated 60 kilometres from the mouth of the inlet is Knight Inlet Lodge. Our floating resort is tucked into Glendale Cove, which offers one of the few protected anchorages in the inlet, and it is here that you will begin each day's adventure. The lodge is a modern one story facility consisting of 5 cement floats, we like to call ourselves a floating village, plus support buildings. All guest rooms feature comfortable queen size beds plus private washrooms with showers. The resort is finished with western cedar board and batten siding to give it a real west coast British Columbia look and feel. There are 2 outside deck areas, one complete with gas fireplace, for relaxing on those warm summer evenings.



Black Rock Oceanfront Resort

Ucluelet

A 6-minute stroll from the Wild Pacific Trail, this chic oceanfront hotel built from granite and glass is also a 14-minute walk from downtown Ucluelet. Amenities include an ultrahip bar and restaurant with floor-to-ceiling windows and a seasonal patio overlooking the Pacific Ocean. There's also a serene spa with 2 hot tubs, a lounge and a seasonal plunge pool.



Inn at Laurel Point

Victoria

Overlooking Laurel Point Park, this waterfront hotel is a 5-minute walk from the Black Ball Ferry Line and a 10-minute walk from the Royal BC Museum. Featuring private balconies with water views, the airy rooms include flat-screen TVs and free Wi-Fi, plus minibridges, and tea and coffeemaking equipment. There's a heated indoor pool, an exercise room and a Japanese garden, plus a Pacific Rim-inspired restaurant with a patio and harbour views.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French & English

LOCAL CURRENCY

Canadian Dollars

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.)
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package
- One-way car rental fees (if applicable). If any one-way surcharges apply, this will be advised at the time of booking and is payable locally upon collection of the vehicle
- Car rental rates exclude optional coverage such as Personal Accident Insurance Plus (PAI Plus) and Personal Effects Protection (PEP)
- GPS rental is not included and can be requested (at an additional supplement paid locally) if required