

**CANADA****GREAT BEAR LODGE GRIZZLY BEAR VIEWING** (TOUR CODE: 11885)**STARTS AND ENDS**

in Vancouver

TRAVEL PERIODS

07 May 25 - 16 Oct 25

EXPERIENCE

Wildlife

TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Discover the magic of the Great Bear Rainforest, home to one of the largest concentrations of coastal grizzly bears. Relish the rare gift of close observation of grizzly bears in their natural habitat, while staying in floating lodge accommodation.

Highlights

- Wilderness-gourmet meals with complimentary wine and beer
- Two wildlife viewing tours are scheduled each day at the lodge
- Experience the Great Bear Rainforest, which is home to a significant concentration of coastal grizzly bears
- Chance to view other wildlife like wolves, river otters, pine martens, mink, harbour seals and bald eagles

Great Bear Nature Tours is rated by National Geographic Adventure as one of the Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth. Their ecotourism, Great Bear Lodge, is the ideal base for photography and wildlife viewing tours, nestled at the mouth of a pristine salmon river. Wilderness-gourmet meals await you upon your return from the two guided viewing sessions per day. With a maximum of sixteen guests, you are assured of a personalised wilderness adventure in this very special area.

Nestled within the Great Bear Rainforest, the lodge resides in the midst of a natural wonderland celebrated by conservationists as a true rarity in our modern world. It stands as an extraordinary gem, preserving one of the few remaining complete and unspoiled ecosystems on our planet. Expanding across a colossal expanse of over 8 million acres, dwarfing even Africa's Serengeti, this remote coastal rainforest, with its abundance of threatened species, serves as a crucial sanctuary for the magnificent grizzly bear, making it one of their last bastions worldwide.

This coastal haven thrives on the annual homecoming of five distinct species of Pacific salmon each autumn, providing a sumptuous feast that sustains the iconic towering trees and the formidable bears that have become synonymous with this enchanting coastline.



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

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights at Great Bear Lodge
- 1 night at Port Hardy
- Return flights from Vancouver and Port Hardy
- Return floatplane from Port Hardy and Great Bear Lodge
- All transfers when in Port Hardy
- All meals included at Great Bear Lodge
- Complimentary wine and beer while at the Lodge
- Guided morning and afternoon bear viewing sessions
- Interpretive discussion and welcome orientation
- Interpretive walks or boat excursions

ITINERARY

Day 1

Vancouver Port Hardy Great Bear Lodge

Late this morning depart from Vancouver International Airport (South Terminal) for a 70 minute flight to Port Hardy. Upon arrival transfer (included) to the town of Port Hardy for lunch (own cost) and to explore the town. Departing from Port Hardy in the afternoon, you will leave behind the noise of modern life for a remote wilderness. Transportation is by seaplane. Journeying to the site is a spectacular adventure in itself, traveling over the breathtaking scenery of the central coast and over the rich waters of Queen Charlotte Strait, the home of orca, gray and humpback whales.

Upon your arrival at the lodge, your hosts will be on the dock to welcome you to your wilderness retreat. Settle into your private room at the lodge, before joining the group for your first wildlife viewing session. The Lodge has a range of different viewing sites, and will choose one according to where the bears have been most active. Estuary sites are reached by boat, while river sites are reached by a wilderness track. The viewing blinds on the river have been constructed with the photographer in mind, and are optimal and comfortable places from which to view bears. There is nothing quite like seeing your first grizzly emerge from the forest.

Returning to the lodge that evening, you will be treated to a wilderness-gourmet meal. Our biologist will present slides and videos, explaining the interaction of the grizzly bear with this unique ecology.

Overnight stay at **Great Bear Lodge**.

Dinner



CREDIT: GREAT BEAR LODGE

Day 2-3 Great Bear Lodge

The Great Bear Lodge promotes low-impact ecotourism, using wind and solar power and taking special care not to disturb the bears or their environment. Scheduled morning and afternoon bear viewing sessions coincide with times when the bears are the most active. Accompanied by an experienced wildlife biologist you will observe the bears as they roam freely in their natural habitat as you float by boat through nearby estuaries or watch from specially-designed optimal viewing areas. Other possible wildlife sightings: wolves, otters, bald eagles, black bears, pine martins and mink.

Daily guided activities such as boat tours and an interpretative rainforest walk are offered between morning and afternoon viewing excursions, followed by a delicious lunch. Guests arriving in fall will also be able to witness thousands of migrating salmon from a series of enclosed blinds and open viewing stands along the river. Watch as the grizzlies hunt for fish in preparation for their coming hibernation.

Overnight stay at **Great Bear Lodge**.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



GREAT BEAR VIEWING | CREDIT: GREAT BEAR LODGE

After breakfast, participate in a final bear watching session, followed by a farewell lunch and afternoon activity before taking a floatplane flight back to Port Hardy in the afternoon and a transfer to your post-night hotel.

Overnight stay in **Port Hardy**

Breakfast, Lunch



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Day **5** Port Hardy Vancouver

After check-out of your hotel in Port Hardy, you will be transferred mid-morning to Port Hardy Airport for your return flight to Vancouver International Airport (South Terminal).

ACCOMMODATION

Great Bear Lodge

Great Bear Lodge is located 50 air miles from Port Hardy, British Columbia. This is a place of spectacular beauty where one can still find the silence and solitude of another era. The charming floating lodge has eight bedrooms. The common area is a comfortable place for relaxing and listening to natural history presentations from our wildlife biologists. Completely upgraded in 2014, each bedroom now has an ensuite bathroom with a shower. The wind and solar powered lodge is in keeping with our commitment to low-impact ecotourism. Wilderness-gourmet meals await you at the lodge on your return from the wilderness.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French & English

LOCAL CURRENCY

Canadian Dollars

- Please note that this product is not part of our flexible booking policy as the supplier terms and conditions apply. Our team will advise of the exact booking conditions at the time of booking.
- Please note that the tour schedule is subject to change based on weather or other circumstances beyond the supplier's control.
- Please advise of allergies and / or dietary requirements at the time of booking.
- Guests are allowed 14 kg of baggage on the floatplane and excess luggage can be stored at the floatplane terminal in Port Hardy at no charge.

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