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# Spirit Bear Lodge

Wildlife Tours, Indigenous Culture, and  
The Great Bear Rainforest



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## A TRULY WILD EXPERIENCE

Our goal is to make all of our guests feel welcome and at home.

Experience a vibrant culture, spectacular wildlife, stunning landscapes all while immersing yourself in true wilderness on a grand scale, deep in the heart of the Great Bear Rainforest.

Search for grizzly bears, black bears and spirit bears in pristine river valleys and forests while spotting whales, porpoise, sea lions and much more.

Learn about the Kitasoo Xai'xais people who have called the Great Bear Rainforest home for thousands of years.

Spirit Bear Lodge is Indigenous owned, offering exclusive access to wildlife viewing areas and cultural sites within the Kitasoo Xai'xais traditional territory.

Join us and become a part of our story





## HIGHLIGHTS

ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGES

RETURN AIRFARE FROM VANCOUVER TO BELLA BELLA

OCEAN VIEW ROOMS WITH PRIVATE BATHROOMS

3, 4, AND 7 NIGHT PACKAGES

EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO PRIVATE WILDLIFE VIEWING AREAS

EXPLORE ANCIENT CULTURAL SITES

DELIGHT IN THE ART OF STORYTELLING

CONNECT WITH NATURE IN AN INTACT RAINFOREST

EXPERIENCE ENCHANTING ADVENTURES BY KAYAK, CANOE OR ON FOOT

## ACCOMMODATIONS

After a day of wildlife, culture, and adventure, relax with a glass of wine or beer and delicious appetizers on our ocean view deck or the cozy lounge area of the “Great Room”. Dinner is a communal experience where we enjoy delectable meals created by our culinary team and share stories with each other.

The rooms are spacious yet cozy and can be outfitted with a comfortable king bed or a pair of twin beds. Every room shares the same stunning ocean view and offers the perfect place to relax after each day’s adventure. Gaze out towards the grey blue water of the Great Bear Sea and watch for passing Humpback Whales, Sea Lions, Otters, Eagles and more. Enjoy the serenity and silence as you revel in the natural wonders of the pristine and raw landscape that surrounds you in this unique culturally authentic accommodation.

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# WHEN SHOULD I VISIT?



## Spirit Bear

The Spirit Bear is one of the rarest animals in the world. It is truly a transformative experience to spend time in one's presence.

Current population estimates are under review and vary from 50 to 150 individuals. This elusive animal is only found in a small portion of the Great Bear Rainforest. Kitsoo/Xai'xais territory is home to the largest proportion of the spirit bear population and the only Spirit Bear conservancy.

We can spot this amazing animal at any time during our season, however, the most reliable viewing is linked to the salmon run. The salmon run varies year to year because of rainfall and other mysterious factors, we generally see the first salmon enter rivers between mid-August and the beginning of September. Sightings of the spirit bear in this wild landscape vary, but the search is as much a part of the experience as a sighting.

Roughly 50% of our guests will set eyes on the secretive white bear that remains hidden in the trackless wilderness of the Great Bear Rainforest.



## Black Bear

British Columbia is home to one of the highest black bear populations in the world. We can see black bears and spirit bears at any time, but tend to see more during the salmon run; mid August, September and October. In the spring we may spot them foraging in the intertidal zone or on plants in the near shore environment.

The bountiful berries in the coastal temperate rainforest are a major food source for black and white bears, they often retreat to the cool forest during the hot summer days to fill up on these sugary treats. Once salmon arrive, the feast begins, as all bears gorge themselves on fish to put on enough weight before fasting all winter in their dens.



## Grizzly Bear

In the spring they are often seen feeding on grasses, tubers, and fresh green shoots in the large river estuaries of the mainland.

Once berries ripen the grizzly bear will start to vary their diet to include this higher calorie food source.

After waiting patiently for the salmon to arrive the bears are rewarded with a feast of epic proportions. This is the time we have the highest densities of grizzly bears sharing habitat to put on enough weight for a long winters rest.

Grizzly bears can be seen throughout our season, but as with all wildlife viewing, sightings can be unpredictable.



## Whales and Marine Mammals

The migration path brings both Humpback whales and Orcas to our rich waters to feed during the summer and fall. They then journey south to breed and calve. We hope to encounter sea otters, dall's porpoise, seals and sea lions. Help us spot these wondrous creatures as we travel the Great Bear Sea daily.



## Salmon

Salmon directly feed nearly two hundred species and many more species benefit from salmon indirectly.

Learn about their lifecycle, the mysteries of the salmon forest, and watch as one of the largest animal migrations on earth unfolds. Get educated about the decline in salmon and conservation efforts to save this keystone species that makes the Great Bear Rainforest possible.

Witness one of the last places on earth that wild fish run up wild rivers and feed a wilderness like no other.



### Coastal Wolves

Few of our guests witness this elusive creature though we are lucky enough to encounter signs in the quieter areas of the GBR.

Spotting Coastal Wolves can be difficult though some guests will have the privilege of hearing their calls or experience a brief encounter with them in the wild.



### Countless Creatures

There are countless species of invertebrates, fish, birds, plants, and other fascinating marine life that call this ocean environment home.

Spending time searching for and learning about the enchanting marine life that call The Great Bear Sea home is a part of every excursion at Spirit Bear Lodge.



### The Rainforest

Kitasoo'Xai'xais territory is over 50% protected, which makes it what some call the crown jewel of The Great Bear Rainforest.

Stand in awe under massive old growth trees, marvel at the variation in mosses, lichens, and numerous unique plant species.

Leave the modern world behind and re-connect with nature, set your camera down, breath in the crisp forest air and relax.

We encourage our guests to move at a slower pace and appreciate every aspect of this magnificent ecosystem.



## TOUR TYPES

**June 1 through October 12, 2020**

**Rainforest Recharge** June 1 - July 31

**Wild Summer** August 1 - August 28

**Fill & Thrill** August 29 - October 12

**All packages are available as follows:**

3 night packages beginning on Fridays

4 night packages beginning on Mondays

7 night packages beginning on Mondays

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# SAMPLE ITINERARY

**Itineraries vary based on guest interests, tides, weather and wildlife activity**



## **DAY 1 – ARRIVE AT SPIRIT BEAR LODGE**

Depart Vancouver **South Terminal**(free shuttle available from main terminal) on Pacific Coastal Airlines scheduled service flight to Bella Bella. You are met and assisted with a van transfer to the Bella Bella town docks. A Spirit Bear Lodge boat will pick you up at the dock, this is where your adventure begins. Search for wildlife on the scenic boat ride to Klemtu and Spirit Bear Lodge for an afternoon arrival. After checking in, enjoy a late lunch and a welcome orientation, to prepare you for the days ahead. Following orientation you will be guided to the traditional Big House for a unique cultural experience. Return to the lodge for delicious appetizers and drinks followed by dinner and a relaxing evening.



## **DAY 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST**

After a 7am breakfast, meet on the dock at 8am for a day of adventure, activities may include: wildlife/bear viewing, kayaking, hiking, canoeing or a cultural site visit. (see below) We visit estuaries, stunning inlets and see spectacular waterfalls. Return in time for appetizers and dinner. Your evening may include a presentation or cultural discussion.

## **DEPARTURE DAY KLEMTU -BELLA BELLA - VANCOUVER**



After breakfast, pack up and depart the lodge by 8am to enjoy a scenic boat ride to Bella Bella soaking in the serenity of the Great Bear Rainforest one last time. Arrive in Bella Bella in time to take a Pacific Coastal Airlines flight back to Vancouver. You arrive at Vancouver South Terminal where your package comes to an end.  
Breakfast and snacks included.

**Please note: this is to give you a general idea of what to expect, each day is different and we assure you, each day is special.**

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## ACTIVITY OPTIONS

**Subject to weather, tides, wildlife activity and guest's interests:**

### Hiking

Have a more in-depth experience in the Great Bear Rainforest by taking on a longer hike through an awe-inspiring landscape.

Learn about the ecology of the coastal temperate rainforest and what makes this ecosystem so special. Taking a hike in Kitasoo Xai'xais territory is like going back in time, a unique opportunity to explore an area void of humans and in its natural state. A true adventure where sometimes we even make our own trails, never knowing what's around the next bend.

### Cultural Day

Visit an ancient Cultural Site and delight in the art of storytelling or wander ancient forests learning about culturally modified trees, ancient villages, traditional fish traps and more. Kitasoo Xai'xais culture is integrated into each day through spending time with local guides, visiting cultural sites, and learning the history of the Kitasoo Xai'xais people.





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## Wildlife Viewing

Everyday at Spirit Bear Lodge is unique, we visit many diverse and awe-inspiring locations in search of wildlife.

Tours vary depending on recent wildlife sightings, guest interests, and weather. Some days could be spent waiting patiently in one river system for wildlife to appear, while others could involve visiting several locations.



## Canoeing

Get a change of perspective by seeing the Great Bear Rainforest by paddle power. Enjoy the peace and quiet as your canoe cuts through rainforest reflections on the serene waters of the GBR.

Tranquility at its best. Explore with us, take a dip in refreshing waters and keep your eyes open for wildlife along the shore. Relax, recharge, and reconnect.

## Kayaking

Explore an ocean teeming with life by kayak. Keep an eye on the shore searching for wildlife big and small. Feel the silence and serenity of the Great Bear Sea.

Paddle with newly discovered Petroglyphs, explore an area where stories are new and old.



Dip your paddle into one of the last places on earth where a wild land meets a wild ocean

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## PRICE LIST

### RAINFOREST RECHARGE

JUNE 1 - JULY 31	3 NIGHT	4 NIGHT	7 NIGHT
DOUBLE	3055	3710	5845
SINGLE	4560	5525	8750
TRIPLE	2730	3320	5245
CHILD (12-16)	1830	2230	3515

### WILD SUMMER

AUGUST 1 - AUGUST 28	3 NIGHT	4 NIGHT	7 NIGHT
DOUBLE	3810	4760	7860
SINGLE	5695	7105	11770
TRIPLE	3415	4260	7055
CHILD (12-16)	2295	2860	4725

### FILL AND THRILL

AUGUST 29 - OCTOBER 12	3 NIGHT	4 NIGHT	7 NIGHT
DOUBLE	4210	5255	8570
SINGLE	6350	8010	13195
TRIPLE	3665	4600	7570
CHILD (12-16)	2530	3160	5150

- ❖ PRICING (per person in Canadian dollars; GST is not included)
- ❖ Child rates are based on the child staying in a room with 2 double rate guests.
- ❖ Gratuities not included (recommended \$50 per person per day)

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# Getting To The Great Bear Rainforest

Travelling here is part of the Adventure! Flights from the **South Terminal** at Vancouver Airport are included in our packages.

The free shuttle from Vancouver's main terminal takes time, please leave **at least 1 hour** to transfer to the South Terminal.

Click on the link to enjoy this short video illustrating the 'journey' to Spirit Bear Lodge.

## [Getting to Spirit Bear Lodge](#)

PACIFIC COASTAL airlines is an independent carrier and not affiliated with Spirit Bear Lodge, therefore we **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** you purchase **cancellation/trip insurance** as we have no control over schedule changes or flight delays.

Flight delays occur frequently due to weather and the nature of flying into remote areas. We **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** you plan to spend a night in Vancouver before and after your trip to Spirit Bear Lodge.

Any baggage questions or concerns please refer to Pacific Coastal's website:

[www.pacificcoastal.com](http://www.pacificcoastal.com)

**Spirit Bear Lodge is not responsible for making alternate travel plans or any costs incurred due to flight changes.**

## Good Mobility

Good mobility is **essential** for travel on the trails and for embarking and disembarking our vessels onto rocky shorelines and beaches.

Guests must be physically prepared to encounter trails that can be overgrown and uneven.

We can sit for long periods of time in the forest, in the rain, waiting for our chance to view wildlife.

We hike distances of up to a mile at each river or estuary we visit.



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## Waiver

All Spirit Bear Lodge guests are required to fill in a registration form and sign a waiver **prior** to arriving at the lodge.

## Cancellation Policy

- ❖ \$500.00 CDN deposit per person at time of booking
- ❖ balance due 45 days prior to arrival
- ❖ from time of booking a \$185 per person fee will apply to cancellations, reservation date changes, name changes or flight schedule changes
- ❖ 90 days or more prior to arrival - \$185 per person fee as above
- ❖ 45 - 90 days prior to arrival - \$500 per person cancellation fee
- ❖ 30 - 44 days prior to arrival - 60% of package price per person cancellation fee
- ❖ 0 - 29 days prior to arrival no refund

We **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** your purchase cancellation or travel insurance

## Where a wild land meets a wild ocean



A visit to Spirit Bear Lodge is a unique experience among wildlife viewing operators in BC. We visit totally remote and pristine locations with no roads, no viewing platforms, and no washrooms. Our guests are viewing wildlife in its most natural form. The animals we encounter are truly wild, and do not always adhere to our schedule. The success of this type of viewing is at the mercy of mother nature.

With patience we are often rewarded.

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- Please be advised that Klemtu is a remote community and services are limited. While the community of Klemtu is a dry community, Spirit Bear Lodge has been given special permission to offer beer and wine to our guests during dinner time at the lodge
  - Maximum of 10 guests per boat
  - We spend 2.5 to 4 hours on our transport vessels each day to reach our wildlife viewing destinations.
  - To maximize your wildlife viewing we spend up to 10 hours in the field.



## Contact Information

### Mailing Address

Box 605

Lazo • BC Canada V0R 2K0

### Location

300 Spirit Bear Dr

Klemtu • BC Canada V0T 1L0

**Phone:250-339-5644**

**[www.spiritbear.com](http://www.spiritbear.com)**



### **Giaxsixa, thank you**

By choosing to spend your time with us you are supporting an Indigenous owned, environmentally responsible business.

This means enjoying an experience of a lifetime at Spirit Bear Lodge contributes to conservation efforts in the GBR and the community of Klemtu.