

Knight Inlet

2/3/4 Night/3/4/5 Day Tour – 3-4V

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Knight Inlet Lodge at Glendale Cove • Grizzly Bears • Wildlife Viewing

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive in Campbell River

Arrive independently in Campbell River. The day is at your leisure. Accommodation for the first night of your Knight Inlet Lodge package will be at Comfort Inn & Suites in Campbell River. Passengers must reconfirm the floatplane departure time upon check-in. Room is guaranteed available for 15:00. (Please note you will need to arrive into Canada before the 1st day of the tour, to allow time to make your way to Campbell River). **Accommodation stay – 1 night at Comfort Inn & Suites Campbell River.**

Day 2: Campbell River – Knight Inlet

After a 08:15 transfer from your hotel to the floatplane base*, you will depart at 09:30 on a 25 min flight to Knight Inlet Lodge. Once settled in at the lodge, and following a brief orientation, you will embark on a small boat excursion in the estuary. Two 2-hour tours follow in the afternoon; one of these tours is a bear viewing tour (by boat in the spring and summer and on a viewing platform from late August to October), and the other will be a Knight Inlet sightseeing cruise. You will be accompanied on all excursions by a knowledgeable guide trained in the local wildlife and natural history of the area. In the evening relax in the lounge while enjoying an interpretive presentation by one of the guides. **Accommodation stay – 1 night at Knight Inlet Lodge. (B, L, D)**

* Transfer from hotel to the floatplane base is only included for passengers arriving into Campbell River by air. Passengers with cars should drive to the floatplane base themselves to arrive by 08:45 & say they are guests of the lodge (5 minute drive from Campbell River - directions provided locally. There is free parking available at Vancouver Island Air while passengers are staying at Knight Inlet Lodge.)

Day 3: Knight Inlet – Campbell River

On your day of departure you'll have the opportunity to go on a final bear viewing boat excursion before your 10:00 return transfer to Campbell River by floatplane. On arrival transfer independently from Campbell River. **(B)**

3- and 4-night durations available:-

- Guests booked on 3-night packages can participate in extra bear viewing and wildlife watching excursions, an interpretative hike through the Kwalate River Valley, and wildlife tracking.
- Guests booked on 4-night packages additionally enjoy a full day excursion to Johnstone Strait for marine life viewing and an excursion to Thompson Sound and Bond Sound for bear and wildlife viewing. Overnights at Knight Inlet Lodge.

Please note: We recommend customer's book the 3- or 4-night package to allow themselves enough time to experience all the activities.

Meals: 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 1 dinner at Knight Inlet Lodge on 2 night tour; 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 2 dinners on 3 night tour; and 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners on 4 night tour.

This is a set tour itinerary, if you have booked any pre/post or optional tour arrangements please refer to your separate vouchers and final documents.

* Please note: The tour schedule is subject to change based on weather and anything beyond the supplier's control.

TOUR NOTES

For current departure dates and prices please check our website

Pre/Post Tour information

It is recommended that customers arrive into Canada the day before they join a wildlife viewing package as they are generally in remote areas and customers will need to catch an internal flight/ferry/transfer etc to get to the lodge. We can easily add on a pre or post night stay for you to make your bear viewing experience part of a longer trip. Our Sales Team will work with you to arrange the best connecting flights and book any additional hotel stays or experiences. Internal flights from Vancouver to Campbell River can be booked. Simply tell us what you'd like and we can arrange it.

Time difference

GMT -8 hours Western Canada

Tour inclusions

- Accommodation for 1 night in Campbell River at the Comfort Inn & Suites and 1, 2 or 3 nights at Knight Inlet Lodge (deluxe room with private bathroom and shower)
- Meals: Full board starting with breakfast day 2 and ending with breakfast last day, complimentary wine with dinner
- Arrival transfer from Campbell River Airport if arriving by air (clients must provide arrival and departure times to and from Campbell River Airport if travelling by air)
- Transfer from hotel to floatplane base (applicable only to passengers who fly to Campbell River)
- Passengers with cars should drive to the floatplane base themselves (5 minute drive from hotel; directions provided locally). Complimentary parking is available at Campbell River floatplane base for passengers who drive to the base.
- Return floatplane from Campbell River floatplane base to Knight Inlet Lodge (check-in at 09:00, return flight arrives in Campbell River at 11:00)
- Transfer from floatplane base to Campbell River Airport if arriving by air
- Welcome orientation briefing
- Bear viewing tour
- Scenic boat ride through Glendale Cove
- All transportation to the bear watching platforms (in the spring and summer, viewing is done from boats)
- Interpretative guide
- Evening interpretative programmes
- Rain gear, if necessary
- Baggage handling (guests are allowed one 14 kg bag and a small carry-on on all packages. Any excess luggage is subject to a surcharge of \$1 / 0.5 kg. Excess luggage can be stored at the floatplane terminal at no charge, so we recommend you bring a small bag to take to Knight Inlet.)
- All park user fees
- Staff gratuities
- Environmental levy
- Conservation fee
- Provincial Taxes and Federal GST
- 3-night package additional activities:
 - Extra bear viewing trips
 - Interpretative forest hike through the Kwalate River Valley
 - Wildlife tracking to make plaster casts of animal prints
 - Excursions for Bald Eagle viewing and other wildlife
- 4-night package additional activities, please note as some of these activities are marine-based, they are strongly weather dependent and on a short duration tour, it may be difficult to include the activity:
 - Full day excursion to Johnstone Strait for marine wildlife viewing
 - Bald Eagle and other bird watching
 - Extra bearviewing
 - Excursion to Thompson Sound and Bond Sound for bear and wildlife viewing
 - Interpretative forest hike in the Kwalate River Valley

Tour exclusions

- International flight in economy class, including all UK and overseas airport taxes and applicable fuel surcharges
- Flight upgrades and airport transfers in the UK
- Insurance
- Any alcoholic beverages not specified
- Return transportation between Vancouver and Campbell River
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, tips & gratuities, video camera fees at monuments
- The required Canada Electronic Authorization (eTA)
- Anything not detailed on the itinerary

Dining inclusions

Meals: daily breakfast from day 2, lunch and dinner included at Knight Inlet Lodge. Vegetarian, as well as any other special dietary needs, can usually be met with advance notice. All meals are a set menu that changes daily, but please advise if you have special requests for dietary or allergy issues.

Included activities

Tours listed in the itinerary. Daily activities may be modified depending on weather and water level conditions. Guests will be divided into groups upon arrival at the resort so that you experience the true magnificence of the inlet in small, well-organised teams of maximum 8 guests (up to 12 for whale watching). The lodge can accommodate 36 guests at one time)

Accommodation

Accommodation is in a Deluxe Room at Knight Inlet Lodge with private bathroom and shower. The lodge rooms do not have telephone or television. Public phone is available.

Children

Minimum age is 6 years between 21 May – 23 Aug and 8 years between 24 Aug – 14 Oct '20.

Important Information

All guests are required to sign a waiver of liability prior to departure and are also required to pay CAD\$25 locally for a bear viewing license.

Visa requirements

Under Canada's new eTA program, British citizens WILL need to obtain an online authorization before flying to Canada.

This requirement is mandatory. Travellers will have the opportunity to go online and apply for their eTA. The earlier travellers get their eTA, the sooner they will benefit from knowing they have been pre-screened to enter Canada.

A fee of \$7 is payable for processing an application for an electronic travel authorization.

An application for an electronic travel authorization must be made by means of an electronic system that is made available by the Department (Citizenship and Immigration Canada) for that purpose.

An electronic travel authorization is valid for a period of five years from the day on which it is issued to the applicant or until the earliest of the following days, if they occur before the end of that period:

- (a) The day on which the applicant's passport or other travel document expires,
- (b) The day on which the electronic travel authorization is cancelled, or
- (c) The day on which a new electronic travel authorization is issued to the applicant

Visit: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/eta-start.asp> to arrange the eTA.

Alternatively you can apply for your eTA through our partners CIBT visas who make the process as easy as possible and will apply for the eTA on your behalf. Contact them on www.cibtvisas.co.uk/virginholidays for more information.

Currency

The official unit of currency in Canada is the Canadian dollar. Major credit cards and debit cards will be accepted within Canada.

Electricity

If you bring any electrical appliance to Canada, you may need an adaptor to fit the Canadian electrical receptacles. You may also need a converter to change the voltage from 110 volts to 220 volts.

Tipping

Tipping is a big part of Canada's service economy and their taxation system, all visitors should understand that this is a part of the local culture; please see below a list of useful suggestions for tipping:

- Waiters/Waitresses: 15% - 20% for average - good service, more for exceptional service.
- Bartenders: \$1 - \$2 a round -or- 15% to 20% of the tab, with a minimum of 50 cents per soft drink, \$1 per alcoholic drink.
- Any tour guide: \$5 per person, per day in your party.

How to get there

You can either fly or drive to Campbell River on Vancouver Island for the start of the tour. Please note you will need to arrive into Canada before the 1st day of the tour to allow time to make your way to Campbell River.

If arriving by air, Pacific Coastal Airlines offers daily service between Vancouver Airport (South Terminal) and Campbell River. Passengers are required to request departure time at the time of booking. Upon arriving, your shuttle will be parked outside and to the right of the terminal at the Campbell River Airport. Depending on the time of day it may be either the Knight Inlet Lodge shuttle, look for the bear murals on the side of the bus, or the Campbell River Airport Shuttle that takes you to the Comfort Inn. If the Campbell River Airport Shuttle is taking you to Comfort Inn they will have the lodge sign in the bus window.

If driving to Campbell River, travel north from Victoria, take Highway 1 north for 1.5 hours to Nanaimo (110 km). From Nanaimo, take Highway 19 north for 1.5 hours (155 km), or take the scenic route along the Ocean Highway 19A, passing through the town of Parksville, to Campbell River. Continue on Highway 19 into Campbell River. To get to the Comfort Inn & Suites, take Jubilee Parkway exit to Highway 19A. Follow Highway 19A north and continue onto Shoppers Row. Turn right to stay on Shoppers Row. The hotel is located on the right-hand side. From Port Hardy, take Highway 19 south for approximately 3 hours (235 km), to Campbell River. Once in Campbell River, go over the bridge and turn left onto Island Highway 19A. Continue for 2.2 km, then turn right onto Roberts' Reach Road, then turn left onto Shoppers Row. The hotel is located on the left hand side.

What to pack

It is suggested that you bring casual clothing that can be worn in layers; good walking / trekking shoes (waterproof is best), shorts, and a pair of light gloves (spring /fall). The lodge will provide you with good quality wet weather gear, including rubber boots. Please consider bringing items of a personal nature to be used for hiking and the outdoors: light jacket, windbreaker, rain gear, shorts and long pants, hats, gloves, extra socks, sun glasses with UV protection, sun block lotion, lip protector and insect repellent with deet. For keen photographers a 250-300mm lens is good and monopods work better than tripods.

We recommend that you pack a smaller holdall to take to Knight Inlet as there is a weight restriction for the floatplane. The rest of your luggage can then be left at the floatplane terminal. Guests are allowed one 14 kg bag and a small carry-on. Any excess luggage is subject to a surcharge of \$1 / 0.5 kg. Excess luggage can be stored at the floatplane terminal at no charge

What to expect

A low to moderate level of physical fitness is required for all tours including, but not limited to, the ability to walk 100 – 200 metres on uneven, slippery and or muddy shoreline. Please advise if guests are concerned with their physical capabilities so we may discuss this with Knight Inlet Lodge in more detail. This tour is not suitable for those who require special assistance.

Recommended vaccinations

We advise you to discuss your individual requirements for Canada with your GP at least 6-8 weeks prior to travel.