

# Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge – Glamping with Grizzlies

4 Night/5 Day Tour

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

**Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge • River jet boat bear watching excursion • Guided hiking trips • Quesnel Lake**

## ITINERARY

### **Day 1: Arrive at Pyna-Tee-Ah Lodge/Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge**

Arrive at the lodge by noon for check in, a preliminary orientation and transfer to your private glamping walled tent on the floating lodge. Meet Gary Zorn, the famous Bear Whisperer™ and receive an introduction and orientation before a late afternoon bear viewing excursion. Dinner and snacks included. **Accommodation stay - Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge (D)**

### **Days 2: Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge**

Today after breakfast, board the specially constructed jet boat and travel up the waterway, then spend the day quietly drifting down the river observing and photographing animals in their natural habitat. Possible sightings include grizzlies, eagles, wolves, black bear, moose and other animals. During spring and summer, bears may be viewed around the rivers as they feed on sedge, berries, trout and other fish. During the fall (usually from end of August to end of October), the salmon have travelled back from the ocean to their birthplace where they lay their eggs for the next generation and complete their cycle of life. The bears come to the rivers for their annual salmon feast, along with a host of other forest creatures like the eagles and wolves that gorge on the large fish. Early morning viewing and evening viewing ensure you get the best opportunities to see the bears and get that perfect bear photo. **Accommodation stay - Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge (B, L, D)**

### **Day 3: Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge**

After breakfast today, embark on a serious guided journey through the ancient forests with your experienced guide to the areas where grizzlies feed and socialize. You will learn much about the bears that few people have had the chance to experience and learn the concept of Forest Bathing: seeing with the eyes of the forest and using all senses to connect with nature. Also learn about wildlife and the plants and birds that make up the ecosystems of this unique part of the natural world. Perhaps today you may opt to explore the local waters around the lodge by kayak, travelling to where the passing waters have carved out passages and caves in the rock. Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks included. **Accommodation stay - Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge (B, L, D)**

**Day 4: Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge** After breakfast, enjoy another day on the water as you board the jet boat and set out for a day of bear watching. Today there is an option to do a lake tour by boat on the East arm of Quesnel Lake in search of grizzlies, mountain goats, moose, local birds and other local animals. The route is very scenic with sheer rock walls along parts of the shores where the goats frequent, and at the end of the arm are spectacular water falls. Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks included. **Accommodation stay - Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge (B, L, D)**

### **Day 5: End of Package**

Enjoy a final breakfast at the lodge before departing at 10:00. **(B)**

**Meals:** Full board starting with dinner on Day 1 and ending with breakfast on Day 5

**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. Pre / Post accommodation can be arranged in Vancouver.**

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

## TOUR NOTES

### 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/boat/transfer to get to the lodge. Similarly, we strongly advise customers to also book a post night following a wildlife package, if they are returning straight to the U.K. 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 to/from Vancouver to Williams Lake Airport can be added at the time of booking. Simply tell us what you'd like and we can arrange it.

### Time difference

GMT -8 hours Western Canada

### Tour inclusions

- ☑ Accommodation for 4 nights at Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge in luxury private walled tents
- ☑ Meals: Full board starting with dinner on Day 1 and ending with breakfast on Day 5 ☑ Return transportation from Pyna-Tee-Ah Lodge to Grizzly Bay Floating Lodge by boat
- ☑ River jet boat bear watching excursion, bear watching (land) excursion, bear watching safari by boat; guided hiking trips, kayaking in the fjords and sightseeing by boat on Quesnel Lake
- ☑ Forest Bathing: seeing with the eyes of the forest, and using all senses to connect with nature
- ☑ Bear Whisperer™ and/or guiding team conducting daily tours
- ☑ Gratuities
- ☑ Provincial Taxes and Federal GST

### 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
- ☑ 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
- ☑ Transportation to and from the resort – see 'How to get there' below
- ☑ Gratuity
- ☑ Transportation to Pyna-Tee-Ah Lodge
- ☑ Alcoholic beverages
- ☑ Raingear, other outdoor clothing and equipment

### Dining inclusions

Full board starting with dinner on Day 1 and ending with breakfast on Day 5. Advise of allergies, health concerns and / or dietary requirements at the time of booking.

### Included activities

Tours listed in the itinerary. Daily activities may be modified depending on weather and water level conditions.

### Accommodation

The floating lodge sits on quiet Grizzly Bay, on the north arm of Quesnel Lake, the deepest fjord lake on earth. Under a glacier, and surrounded by the peaks of the Cariboo Mountains, the views are magnificent. The canvas safari tents are private suites with ensuite bathrooms, full frame and mattress beds with cozy duvets, solar lighting, and amenities like comfy velour robes. The lodge and the tents are based on the water and are permanently anchored; however, some minor motion is possible. Meals are prepared and served at the Glamping Lodge.

### Children

Minimum age is 12 years. Maximum 2 guests per room

### Important Information

All guests are required to sign a waiver of liability prior to departure

### 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](http://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 the 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:

#### How to get there

##### **From Williams Lake**

The Lodge is located about a 1.5-hour drive (100 km) away. Drive about 10 km south of Williams Lake along Highway 97, then turn east in 150 Mile House onto Horsefly – Likely Road (a secondary paved highway). At the top of the hill, the road curves off into a "Y", and you should stay to the left on the paved road leading to Likely, about 80 km. Cross the Quesnel River as you come into Likely and turn left at the end of the bridge where you will follow the road for about 1/2 km down river to the lodge. Sign on the gate reads ECO-TOURS BC.

##### **From Prince George**

The lodge is located about 3 hours (270 km); from Quesnel, about 2.5 hours (150 km) southeast, along Highway 97. Drive to Williams Lake, then follow the directions above

##### **From Clearwater**

The lodge is located about 3.5 hours (290 km) northwest. Drive south along Highway 5, and then take Highway 24 and Highway 97 northwest to 150 Mile House. From 150 Mile House refer to the directions noted above.

##### **From Vancouver**

Pacific Coastal Airlines offers flights between Vancouver Airport (South Terminal) and Williams Lake Airport. Passengers are required to request departure time at the time of booking. Late morning arrival is preferred, as passengers must check-in at Pyna-Tee-Ah Lodge by noon. For the departure flight, 13:30 flight or later is recommended (the 09:30 flight is not possible, as passengers will leave the glamping camp at 10:00). Transfers between Williams Lake airport and Pyna-tee-ah Lodge can be pre-booked. Airport pickups are available between 10:00 and 16:00. Drop-offs can be made for flights departing at 13:30 and later.

The flights and transfers must be added at time of booking and are at an additional cost.

#### What to pack

Essential equipment for all seasons: good waterproof rain gear (jacket and pants) and hat or hood on jacket, sturdy hiking footwear (preferably waterproof; canvas/running shoes are not recommended), sandals or casual shoes for leisure wear on the glamping camp deck or at the lodge, and warm clothing that can be layered. Darker coloured clothing is strongly recommended (no white or light colours. Darker colours blend in the forest whereas white/light tan/light pastels stand out as unnatural in the forest.) The weather changes quickly and excursions take place rain or shine. Snow showers and cold winds off the mountains can occur in early September, especially in the Mitchell River area. Guests must be prepared with essential equipment as they will leave the lodge for the entire day during excursions (only returning to the lodge in the evening). Bring a camera (with telephoto lens if you have it), binoculars, day pack sack, hat, insect repellent, sunscreen, sunglasses and personal toiletries.

#### Recommended vaccinations

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