Bella Coola Valley
Visitor Guide

Experience the Adventure!

www.bellacoola.ca

Cariboo
Chilcotin Coast
REGION
Welcome to the Bella Coola Valley and British Columbia’s Central Coast

Nestled in the heart of the Coast Mountains, the Bella Coola Valley is a remote natural paradise offering unlimited authentic outdoor adventures in a spectacular setting.

The people of the Bella Coola Valley have been welcoming adventurous visitors since long before Alexander Mackenzie “discovered” the Valley in 1793 on the first recorded crossing of continental North America by a European. Today, living at the end of the only road access to the Central Coast, with Tweedsmuir Provincial Park straddling the eastern end and the Great Bear Rainforest to the west, we are privileged to join our communities in extending a welcome as you enter a world steeped in history and culture, rich with wildlife, lush flora and flowing rivers. From sea to mountain peak, from valley floor to glacier, prepare to ‘Experience the Adventure!’

My name is Sixelaaxayc. My smayusta (my Creation story) tells of the abundance that came at the time of Creation when the land tilted toward Chief Sixelaaxayc and Q’umk’uts on the bank of the river near where I live now. One hundred years ago, several long houses stood at that place. Long before that, at the time of Creation, the tilting land brought much abundance to the Valley of Nuxalk, which means in my language “becoming one.” I welcome you to our Valley, where all you see is sacred. I hope you enjoy the scenery, the rich history, and the abundance. Please enjoy your stay.

Sixelaaxayc (Noel Pootlass), Nuxalk Nation Head Hereditary Chief and Artist

Visitor Information Booth located at the Norwegian Heritage House. Regopening (summer months only) - Phone locally 250-982-0092. Please call toll free 1-866-799-5202 for information year round. This Visitor Guide and the Trail Guide on reverse have been produced by Bella Coola Valley Tourism with special thanks to Doug Baker, Ernest Hall, Tom Hermance, Rosemary Smart, Ivan Bakes, Chris Carter, Loredana Ellis, Rob Guadalupe, Lutron Tejada and Michael Wigle. For their invaluable advice and contributions, BCVT is especially grateful to: Snxakila (Clyde Tallio), Xim-xim-layc (Robert “Skip” Saunders) and Indigenous (Ron Parfitt), Chris Niles and Karen Ahtermann. BCVT also acknowledges the Norway Heritage House Society for providing the venue for the Visitor Information Booth. © 2014 Bella Coola Valley Tourism – Box 670, Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0. Member of the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Associations and BC Wilderness Tourism Association. Cover photos: Michael Wigle/Jumping Mouse Productions. Cover design and production: Roger Handling/Terra Firma Digital Arts. Printed in Canada, 2014.

All rights reserved. Unauthorized reproduction is prohibited. This guide does not constitute and should not be construed as an endorsement or recommendation. Bella Coola Valley Tourism does not assume any responsibility for any carrier, hotel, restaurant or any other facility or activity in British Columbia. Errors and omissions excepted.
Getting Here: The Adventure Begins

Few places in the world combine authentic wilderness with comfort, and remoteness with accessibility the way the Bella Coola Valley does. The glacier-carved valley of the Bella Coola River winds its way through the mountains to the sea at the head of one of British Columbia’s longest inlets about 450 km (270 mi) northwest of Vancouver.

By Land: The Highway 20 Adventure

All who approach the Bella Coola Valley via Highway 20 for the first time experience the driving adventure of a lifetime. From its headwaters high on British Columbia’s central plateau, the river scours its way down through the Coast Mountains to saltwater at its mouth, providing a corridor for mountains to the sea at the head of one of British Columbia’s longest inlets about 450 km (270 mi) northwest of Vancouver. The glacier-carved valley with snow-capped peaks and granite rampsarts lining the way.

At Anahim Lake, the pavement yields to an all-season gravel road—with a maximum speed of 80 km/h (50 mph). Where the telephone and electric power lines end a short distance later, the true wilderness begins. Here in this pristine region the chance of spotting moose, wolves, black bears, and grizzlies becomes a distinct possibility, and the ancient practices of hunting, trapping, and fishing remain a vital part of the local culture.

At the eastern boundary of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park, a glance to the north detects the mountain pass where Alexander Mackenzie, one of North America’s first great adventurers, entered the history books with his overland journey across North America to the waters of the Pacific at the mouth of the Bella Coola River. Here the imagination can conjure up parties of First Nations peoples throughout the millennia trekking up from the coast over the “Grease Trail” bearing their precious trading commodity of fish oil. At the subalpine Heacman Pass, the most influence of the Pacific is evident as Highway 20 begins its spectacular descent toward the sea.

Here the modern adventurer can gaze far below at the thin ribbon of road ahead. The “highway” winds down the mountainside to the valley floor and meanders seaward toward the heart of the Great Bear Rain Forest sweeping beyond the horizon left and right.

From the Pass, today’s adventurer descends the “Freedom Road”, dubbed such because its construction through the pass in 1953 ended the isolation of the Bella Coola Valley. “The Hill” is no longer the hair-raising spectacle that once discouraged faint hearted travelers with its 18% grades and hair-pin switchbacks. Today, tractor trailer rigs, supplying the valley merchants, travel the grades and curves regularly.

Suddenly—pavement again. At the posted speeds, you have covered the 62 km (37 mi) of gravel road in about an hour. The remaining 80 km (50 mi) to the saltwater at the end of Highway 20 winds with the river through forests of Douglas-Fir, Western Red Cedar, Western Hemlock and Sitka Spruce, past settlements and farmlands, down the glacier-carved valley with snow-capped peaks and granite rampsarts lining the way.

Of course, as with all highways, caution is in order on Highway 20. Abide by the posted speeds, gear down—to first, not second gear—for the steeper sections of “The Hill,” and DON’T ride your brakes!!! In winter, spring, and fall (as with any mountain highway in Western Canada) it is wise to check the road conditions before heading out. (www.Drivebc.ca)

A Seafaring Adventure

A much more serene, but equally spectacular adventure awaits the traveler choosing to approach the Bella Coola Valley by sea. Every summer, between Port Hardy on northern Vancouver Island, and various points on the mid-coast, BC Ferries vessels cross the open waters of Queen Charlotte Sound into the islands and fjords of the Great Bear Rain Forest. One of the world’s largest remaining tracts of unspoiled temperate rain forest, this lush, protected ecosystem is a true untouched wilderness. At two million hectares (27,000 square miles), it encompasses an area nearly as large as Scotland.

Leaving the outer coast islands, the adventure continues through narrow glacial fjords that enter North Bentinck Arm to the mouth of the Bella Coola River—some 100 km (60 mi) inland. For the meditative traveler leaning on the rail, this mountainous coastline of stunning granite cliffs and tumbling waterfalls, misty green dark forests, and deep glacier-fed inlet waters dredges up images of tall ships of European explorers or the painted paddles of First Nations peoples in their dugout cedar canoes flashing in the sun since the dawn of time. Ferry reservations are strongly recommended.

Doubting the Adventure

Experience the Discovery Coast Circle Tour, by touring clockwise from Vancouver to Vancouver Island, up the Island to Port Hardy, ferrying to Bella Coola, and driving out across the Chilcotin Plateau, returning south through Whistler and back to Vancouver.

This Circle Tour takes the traveler through a multitude of climate zones and ecosystems on a trip of four or five days riddled by few other such journeys on earth. Of course the reverse (counter-clockwise) tour is equally varied and spectacular.

The Bird’s Eye Experience

By scheduled air service from Vancouver, in little more than an hour, you can descend into the Valley after an awe-inspiring bird’s eye adventure.

Your flight soars high over emerald alpine tarns surrounded by treeless meadows, where waterfalls gush far below amid glacial scree, and where volcanic cones and sawtooth pinnacles are shouldered by ancient rivers of ice, unseen by human eye except as winging above and around the highest mountains in British Columbia.

www.tweedsmuirtravel.com
www.pacificcoastal.com

Getting Around in the Valley

If you don’t have your own vehicle on your Bella Coola adventure, rentals are available. Inquire at accommodations, the airport or visit www.bellacoola.ca. Trips on the Community Bus can be pre-booked at least 24 hours in advance—or you can simply flag down the driver from the roadside. Fare for any distance is a flat rate. Dial-a-ride at 250-799-0079. For more information, phone during business hours or visit www.bctransit.com.

Bella Coola Vehicle Rentals

The Best Way to Explore the Bella Coola Area
Cham Reliable Vehicles - Friendly Service
Fast and Easy Check-in/Check-out
Pick-up and Drop-off Services Available
Office located inside the Bella Coola Airport
Phone (250) 302-2146 - Office 1-250-997-7072 - Cell
Email: auragold@aol.com

Bella Coola, a picturesque village in the heart of the Bella Coola Valley, offers a wide range of accommodations, from cozy inns to rustic cabins. The area is known for its pristine wilderness and outdoor activities, including hiking, fishing, and kayaking. The Bella Coola River, which flows through the valley, offers world-class salmon fishing. Visitors can also explore the nearby Great Bear Rainforest, one of the largest temperate rainforests in the world, and the adjacent Tweedsmuir Provincial Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The area is a popular destination for nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts.
for countless generations, the people living in the Bella Coola Valley have fished its rivers and heeded its trees amidst the magnificent mountains and verdant forests of the northwest coast of this continent.

One origin theory suggests the first of them crossed from Asia on an ice (or land) bridge far to the north and migrated south along the coast before occupying the Bella Coola Valley as the ice receded after the last Ice Age some 10,000 years ago. Another has them arriving from the South Pacific via rafts bourn on ocean currents. Still another has them arriving at the time of Creation in animal form, landing on various mountain tops where they discarded their animal skins and took on human form—an origin recognized by the button representations of their animal forbears on the ceremonial blankets worn today.

Whatever the case, they are related by language to peoples of the Lower Fraser and Thompson Rivers and not to other coastal First Nations. Their society, now called Nuxalk (pronounced “Noo-halk”), was rich in material and cultural wealth and had strong links covering a vast territory by way of dugout canoe and a network of trails—a strong links covering a vast territory by way of dugout canoe and a network of trails—a

primary governance mechanism of the Nuxalk, along with the dispersal of families through the Residential School policy further eroded their cultural roots. Today, with the potlatch ban lifted and the Residential School policy revoked, signs of Nuxalk cultural revival attest to the resilience of this People. With the decline of the region’s resource industries at the turn of the millennium, the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth industries at the turn of the millennium, the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of the Great Bear Rainforest to the west—of the Great Bear Rainforest to the west—

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth

of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park (1938) to the east and more recently (2006) the protection

of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth of the region’s spectacular natural beauty and wild, pristine wilderness have seen a growth
to archaeologists, paddled along these fjords more than 10,000 years ago—5,000 years before the Great Pyramid was built in Egypt.

**Taking a Hot Dip**

Relax and soak away your cares in the hot soothing waters of a seaside wilderness hot spring. Natural hot springs, accessible only by air or water, are just a charter away from the Bella Coola Harbour, unless you rent or bring your own seakayaks (but be prepared for an overnighter). Perhaps sight some dolphins, seals or eagles on the way out. These places are holy ground to the Nuxalk who have enjoyed their healing powers for millennia, so respect them as you might a Gothic cathedral.

**Seeing BIG – Feeling Small**

If you’ve never been humbled by the awe that comes with standing under the dark, swooping branches of a botanical wonder, here’s your chance: The Big Cedar Tree, just a short hike up from the beach at Larso Bay on South Bentinck Arm, measures more than 5 metres (18 feet) in diameter. That’s a whopping 18 metres around (more than 56.5 feet)! This ancient giant was a seedling during the late Roman Empire 1,500 years ago.

**Viewing the Wildlife**

As you cruise along the often misty tidal beaches and estuaries of creeks and rivers into the heart of the Great Bear Rainforest, keep your eyes peeled. In the spring, bears emerge from their alpine dens after the long fast of hibernation and offer prime wildlife viewing. Grizzly bears, and black bears, and even the rare white kermode (or “spirit bear” in First Nations parlance) break the water with their breaching—a sight to behold!

Coast adventure with Mackenzie’s at this rock, the western terminus of his daunting adventure—the first recorded trek across the North American continent some 12 years before the more famous but far less arduous journey by American explorers Lewis and Clark.

**Connecting Again at Cascade Inlet**

You make another historic connection with the 1793 tall-ship voyage of Captain George Vancouver, who named this fjord for the clifs rising skyward from glacial fjords—cascades of myriad waterfalls cascading down the glacier-carved granite walls. Be sure to bring your binoculars to get a close-up look at families of the majestic mountain goats clinging to the rocky crevices and narrow ledges of the sheer cliffs changing into the inlet.

**hocking the BIG Ones!**

The Bella Coola Harbour is a great departure point for saltwater anglers heading out to enjoy the bounty of marine life while taking in the pristine scenery of the Central Coast. Cruise along the cliffs rising skyward from glacial fjords as deep as 600 metres (2,000 feet). Cast your eyes up to the rugged snow-capped peaks as you angle for Chinook and Coho salmon. Drop your line to the bottom for huge halibut, or bring up lunker ling cod and red snappers from the deep rocky shelves. Set your traps for white spot prawns from the deep and for Dungeness crabs near the mouths of the creeks.

**Licences and Regulations**

Saltwater and freshwater fishing licences can be obtained—along with government regulations—in Bella Coola/Valley establishments selling equipment for these activities.

Information on saltwater fishing specifically is available at the office of Fisheries and Oceans Canada on Highway 20 at the Bella Coola Townsite. Phone 250-799-5345.

**Ocean Fishing Charters**

**Guided Saltwater Fishing**

Your Host: Balanced Angling Guide

Fish for Spring Salmon, Coho, Halibut, Lingcod, Red Snapper, Spot Prawns and Dungeness Crabs, Seafood Barbecues, Hot Springs.

www.bcoutfitting.com
info@bcoutfitting.com

**1-888-982-0098**

1953 Hwy 20, Bella Coola, BC

**Marine Charters and Tours**

At the Government Wharf in the Bella Coola Harbour, 2 km (1.2 mi) west of the Bella Coola Townsite, ocean-going charter boats with seasoned skippers and guides are available for a day tour or an extended nautical journey to the area of your choice. Also rent a sea kayak or canoe (with or without a guide).

Tour highlights can include: the Bella Coola estuary, historic canneries sites, wildlife/marine life viewing, hot springs, the Big Cedar Tree or Mackenzie’s Rock.

The Bella Coola Harbour Authority provides mooring floats, fuel, boat launching, parking, washrooms and laundry facilities for boaters.

**What’s in the name?**

**Bella Coola: Derived from “Bilxula”, a term used by First Nations on the Outer Coast to identify the Nuxalkmuc, the people living in the Nuxalk (now Bella Coola) Valley.**

**Nuxalk: “ Becoming One.”**

**Hagensborg: Named for Hagen Christensen, the Valley’s first postmaster.**

**How's it going?**

“Greetings, welcome and good day to you all.”

**Hagensborg**

Hagensborg: Named for Hagen Christensen, the Valley’s first postmaster.

**Bella Coola: Derived from “Bilxula”, a term used by First Nations on the Outer Coast to identify the Nuxalkmuc, the people living in the Nuxalk (now Bella Coola) Valley.**

**Nuxalk: “ Becoming One.”**

**What's in the name?**

Bella Coola: Derived from “Bilxula”, a term used by First Nations on the Outer Coast to identify the Nuxalkmuc, the people living in the Nuxalk (now Bella Coola) Valley.

Nuxalk: “Becoming One.”

Hagensborg: Named for Hagen Christensen, the Valley’s first postmaster.

What’s in the name? Bella Coola: Derived from “Bilxula”, a term used by First Nations on the Outer Coast to identify the Nuxalkmuc, the people living in the Nuxalk (now Bella Coola) Valley.

Nuxalk: “Becoming One.”

Hagensborg: Named for Hagen Christensen, the Valley’s first postmaster.

What’s in the name? Bella Coola: Derived from “Bilxula”, a term used by First Nations on the Outer Coast to identify the Nuxalkmuc, the people living in the Nuxalk (now Bella Coola) Valley.

Nuxalk: “Becoming One.”

Hagensborg: Named for Hagen Christensen, the Valley’s first postmaster.

What’s in the name? Bella Coola: Derived from “Bilxula”, a term used by First Nations on the Outer Coast to identify the Nuxalkmuc, the people living in the Nuxalk (now Bella Coola) Valley.

Nuxalk: “Becoming One.”

Hagensborg: Named for Hagen Christensen, the Valley’s first postmaster.
Experience The Valley

Our Communities

The Bella Coola Valley is 60 km (50 mi) long with a population of approximately 2000. From west to east the Valley consists of several small communities:

The Bella Coola Townsite is located at the head of North Bentinck Arm on the Bella Coola River. The commercial centre of the Valley, the townsite offers accommodation, restaurants, groceries, fuel, auto repairs, banking and other retail services. The region’s Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachment is located here along with a library, museum, hospital, clinic, pharmacy, and post office. Marine services are nearby at the Government Wharf. Part of the Townsite is a Nuxalk village.

Four-Mile Subdivision (Snxllh or “Sunny Village”), four miles from the Government Wharf, is a second Nuxalk residential area and the home of the Nuxalk Administration and post office. Marine services are nearby at the Government Wharf. Part of the Townsite is a Nuxalk village.

East Up Valley

Experience The Valley

Bella Coola Harbour Authority
Located 2.4 km west of Bella Coola Town

- CFV & Pleasure Moorage
- Boat Launch
- Showers & Laundry
- 20 & 30 Amp Service
- Fuel Dock
- Wireless Internet
- Potable Water
- Sewage Pump-out
- Parking
- Ice

100 Hwy 20, Bella Coola
250-799-5633
bellacoolaharbour@gmail.com

The Valley Adventures

From sightseeing to outdoor adventure, embark on a scenic Valley journey using Hwy 20 as your guide. Explorers, day-trippers, anglers, and nature enthusiasts will find plenty beckoning to be discovered along the byways and trails, shorelines and river banks.

West Beyond the Harbour

The western end of Highway 20 is the Bella Coola Harbour and Government Wharf, but the gravel road continuing west from there for 2.5 km (1.6 mi) provides access to Clayton Falls. (See Trail Guide, p. 6.) A left turn at that point takes the summer months for detailed information on accommodation, attractions, local events, and hiking and wildlife bulletins. Phone toll free 1-866-799-5202 or visit www.bellacoola.ca.

Fjord shoreline near Bella Coola

Fuel: Available on the Townsite, at Four-Mile and in Hagensborg, but nowhere 24/7. Fuel is not available between Hagensborg and Anahim Lake.

Shopping: A number of businesses are open on Sunday. Some establishments close on Mondays and some may close for lunch breaks.

Sani-Stations: Located at Tweedsmuir Provincial Park Headquarters (near the foot of “The Hill”), and at several of the private campgrounds in the Valley.

Our Communities

The Bella Coola Valley is 60 km (50 mi) long with a population of approximately 2000. From west to east the Valley consists of several small communities:

The Bella Coola Townsite is located at the head of North Bentinck Arm on the Bella Coola River. The commercial centre of the Valley, the townsite offers accommodation, restaurants, groceries, fuel, auto repairs, banking and other retail services. The region’s Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachment is located here along with a library, museum, hospital, clinic, pharmacy, and post office. Marine services are nearby at the Government Wharf. Part of the Townsite is a Nuxalk village.

Four-Mile Subdivision (Snxllh or “Sunny Village”), four miles from the Government Wharf, is a second Nuxalk residential area and the home of the Nuxalk Administration and post office. Marine services are nearby at the Government Wharf. Part of the Townsite is a Nuxalk village.

fuel, auto repairs and the post office. On Friday nights, the Royal Canadian Legion is open for pub service. In summer, the outdoor Centennial Swimming Pool next door is open for swimming as well as lessons and specialty classes. Phone 250-982-2488. Nearby is the picturesque and historic Augsburg Church, which celebrated 100 years in 2004.

Drop by Bella Coola Valley Tourism’s Visitor Information Booth during the original locale of the well-known Stuie Lodge, constructed in 1931 and destroyed by fire in 1950. This is also traditional territory of First Nations peoples who for thousands of years have sustained themselves on the abundance provided by the Atnarko River and surrounding forest.

Valley Adventures

From sightseeing to outdoor adventure, embark on a scenic Valley journey using Hwy 20 as your guide. Explorers, day-trippers, anglers, and nature enthusiasts will find plenty beckoning to be discovered along the byways and trails, shorelines and river banks.

West Beyond the Harbour

The western end of Highway 20 is the Bella Coola Harbour and Government Wharf, but the gravel road continuing west from there for 2.5 km (1.6 mi) provides access to Clayton Falls. (See Trail Guide, p. 6.) A left turn at that point takes the summer months for detailed information on accommodation, attractions, local events, and hiking and wildlife bulletins. Phone toll free 1-866-799-5202 or visit www.bellacoola.ca.

Firvale, located midway up the valley, was first settled by Seventh Day Adventists in the early 20th Century. Only a few houses and farms of this once-thriving community remain, scattered along the scenic highway.

Stuie, a pocket-sized gem in the south end of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park, was discovered in this neighbourhood. (See p. 20.) Ask at the Nuxalk Administration office or visit nuxalknation.com.

Hagensborg, 16 km (10 mi) east “up Valley”, is the other commercial centre with groceries, gifts, accommodations, camping,
The Bella Coola Harbour

Back at the harbour, stroll around the Government Wharf among the commercial fishing boats and pleasure craft bobbing at their moorings. Across the channel from the Harbour, historic Tallboe Cannery, built in 1917 and operated by the Canadian Fish Co. until 1947, still stands as a reminder of a time when commercial fishing was a mainstay of the coastal economy. This monument to progress, abandoned after efficient long-haul fishing boats began transporting fish south for processing, is one of the last canneries let stand on Canada’s West Coast. The harbour is the arrival and departure point for the ferry service of the Discovery Coast Circle Tour between Bella Coola and Port Hardy on Vancouver Island. Depending on schedules and time of year, the Discovery Coast Circle Tour may include landings at Klemtu, Ocean Falls, Denny Island, and McLoughlin Bay (Bella Bella). Ferry passage can be booked at the BC Ferries agent on the Bella Coola townsite: Tweedsmuir Travel, 618 Cliff Street, 250-799-5638. Reserve ahead of time to ensure a space on the ferry.

From the Harbour

Walk or cycle the popular cliff-side route between the harbour and the Bella Coola Townsite. Scan the estuary, locally known as the Tide-Flats, a rich eco-system and home to waterfowl, migrating birds, and bears. A number of old roads and trails weave in and out of the forest to the junction where river meets sea. Entry points vary. This is a tidal zone, so beware of incoming water to avoid getting wet or stranded. Stop at the commemorative roadside rock where plaques honour Canada’s pioneers and Alexander Mackenzie’s trans-continental trek. Listen here for the rush of water cascading over the rainforest cliffs and step into the woods to find “Hidden Falls”.

The Bella Coola Townsite

- Enjoy the shops, restaurants, and accommodations.
- Visit the Museum and pick up the brochure for the self-guided historic walking tour which details the historical landmarks around the village including the location of the Hudson Bay manager’s home, the House of Nuns’ with its totem pole entry, and the tiny cabin that served as Bella Coola’s first jail.
- Be sure to take in the exhibiton welcome post on River Road and the totem poles across from the Co-op and at Healthy Beginnings.
- Mail your postcards from the Bella Coola Post Office and ask for the unique Nuxalk-designed cancellation stamp.

From the Townsite to Hagensborg

(16 km/10 mi)

- For a truly mystical experience, engage a Nuxalk guide and visit the ancient petroglyphs along Thesen Creek (“S’gum’ulh” to the Nuxalk). See p. 21.
- In summer, visit the Farmers’ Market on Sunday mornings at the Fall Fair Grounds.
- At Lobelco Hall, you may catch one of the many events presented by and for the residents in Snootli Creek Regional Park. (See Trail Guide, p. 8.)
- For a truly humbling experience, walk among the giant trees enclosing the trails into the woods to find “Hidden Falls”.
- At Nookliklonnic Creek just west of Hagensborg, pull off at the bridge for a spectacular view of glacier-shouldered Mt. Saugstad (named for the Norwegian pioneer leader, Reverend Christian Saugstad). Rising to 2,905 meters (9,532 feet), it is the highest Coast Mountain peak visible from the Valley floor.

Hagensborg

Cleared by hand from the old growth rainforest, the farms and fields of this settlement nurtured Norwegian colonists who settled the Valley between 1894 and 1910.

Norwegian Heritage House

- Share the pioneer experience in a visit to the Norwegian Heritage House, or the historic Augsburg Church, once a place of worship for the Lutheran pioneers. This visit is not complete without a quiet walk through the Hagensborg Cemetery a short walk from the house.

BCVT/Michael Wigle

BCVT/Michael Wigle
drive west down Highway 20 and south on Sawmill Road (site of one of the Valley’s early sawmills.)
• Check out the the BIG cedar tree 50 metres through the forest trail at the east end of the terminal building at the Airport. Book a heli-biking trip into the alpine or take it easy by booking a “lightseeing” tour of the area’s mountains, glaciers and fjords by plane or helicopter.
• Get some exercise at the tennis court or cool off with a swim at Centennial Pool.
• Drop by the Valley Gallery featuring local art, operated by the Bella Coola Valley Arts Council.
• Mail your postcards from the Hagensborg Post Office and ask for the unique “Freedom Road” cancellation stamp. It was locally designed in 2003 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of “The Hill.”
From Hagensborg to “The Hill”
• From Highway 20 two km (1.2 mi.) east of Hagensborg, a left turn onto Saloompt Road leads to “The Bailey Bridge,” one of the only two bridges across the Bella Coola River. In “The Sunny Saloompt” (so called because much of the area escapes the winter mountain shadow that covers a lot of the Valley), take in the Saloompt Forest Trails. Here, old-growth cedars, spruce, hemlock, and Douglas-fir, seedlings at the time of Columbus, humble the human visitor. (See Trail Guide, p. 11.)
• While in the Saloompt (“Salmt” in Nuxalk, meaning “a good place to live”), venture further to Lost Lake (See Trail Guide, p. 12.)
• Further up the logging road to the left is the ridge range operated by the local Rod and Gun Club.
• Returning to Highway 20, 3.3 km (2 mi) east of the Saloompt turnoff, is the West Nasutsum Forest Road which gives access to the picturesque Odgegaard Falls and to virtually unlimited alpine terrain. (See Trail Guide, pp. 13-16.)
• Further east on Highway 20, just across the Bella Coola River bridge, check out the monumental Nuxalk memorial arch on the left and the totem pole a short distance further on the right raised in 2014 to honour the family on whose traditional territory it stands.
• Further east on Highway 20 near Firvale, watch for mountain goats that often descend from the cliffs at Assanany Creek and hang out along the roadway. Here, a short walk up the creek leads to the base of Assanany Creek Falls.
Entering Tweedsmuir Park
• At the Park entrance, at Burnt Bridge Creek, explore the historic area where Alexander Mackenzie reached the Valley floor after his trek across the continent and the Coast Mountains. Here he was so hospitably hosted by a large Nuxalk village he dubbed it “Friendly Village.” (See Trail Guide, p. 19) for information about this opportunity to experience walking in the footsteps of this great adventurer—and for a stunning view down the Valley!
• At McCall Flats, take the Talchako Forest Service Road. Notice Horsetail Falls plummeting down the west-facing cliff. Mountain goats may be seen on the bluffs. Relax or picnic on a sandy riverside beach. Hike or bike the trails and roads.
• At Fisheries Pool or Atarko Campground, picnic, camp, swim, or just relax and watch the river flow past. Bear in mind that you are in grizzly bear habitat, especially in late summer and early fall during the big salmon runs. This is one of the most popular spots to fish in the entire Valley.
• At Stui, turn off the pavement onto the old Highway 20 and drive through Douglas-Fir parkland to the “Smokehouse,” a lean-to shelter on the north side where First Nations people from the Chilcotin may be smoking fish netted in the river pool below—as they have done since time immemorial.
• At the Wildlife Viewing station at Belarko, walk out on the platform during the late summer or early fall for a safe vantage point to view grizzly bears snagging fresh salmon and showing down.
• Just beyond the Wildlife Viewing station and boat launch, notice the moss-roofed (privately owned) log cabin where Edward Norton lived in a postcard (post-marked “Bella Coola”) while on the lam in the final scene of the 2008 Hollywood blockbuster “The Incredible Hulk.”
• At Big Rock and Kettle Pond, take a picnic with you on a short walk to see this unique geological feature. (See Trail Guide, p.20.)

• At Mosher Creek, stop and imagine the force of water that took out bridge access and splintered the giant trees standing as reminders of the one-day rainfall that isolated Bella Coola from the rest of the world in September, 2010.

• At the Atnarko Tote Road, mountain bike, hike or drive this historic trail, which leaves Highway 20 at the foot of “The Hill.” It was once part of the main route entering and leaving the valley: the 11 km (7 mi) of rough 4X4 road was also part of the old telegraph line and now ends at the trailhead for Hunlen Falls (among North America’s highest). This road and part of the trail also leads to the former homestead of the legendary Ralph Edwards of Lonesome Lake, “the keeper of the swans.” The homestead burned to the ground in the Tweedsmuir Fire of 2004. Travelling the road and trail in daylight is recommended to minimize wildlife encounters. See page 3 of the Trail Guide for Bear and cougar Awareness.

Your Valley Tour Ends
The pavement ends. Highway 20, your trusty guide from the tidewater 80 km (50 mi) downriver to the west, veers sharply left and begins the ascent up Bella Coola’s infamous “Hill.” In short order, the stunning climb provides some of the steepest scenery anywhere and a sheer sense of accomplishment. A drive of only 25 minutes at the posted speed limit winds around 11 switchbacks with short grades up to 18%, topping out at 5,000 feet at Heckman Pass. Here a viewpoint provides a last look down through the Coast Mountains toward the Great Bear Rainforest where the Bella Coola River scours its deep course down to the sea.

From Edmonton or Calgary, the distance to saltwater at Bella Coola is 100 km (60 mi) shorter than it is to Prince Rupert.

Eco-Tour Drifts
The Bella Coola and Atnarko Rivers offer the opportunity to drift placidly downstream through the heart of a rich rainforest on the valley floor with snowcapped mountains cradling glaciers towering above.

Drifters might see a bald eagle diving for a salmon targeted from high above, or one on a river bar already tearing at its newly snagged feast. They might catch the thrilling experience of seeing a river otter floating idly along the log-strewn shore or a grizzly crashing through the current, launching itself at a salmon.

Three-hour or full-day tours are available with experienced and friendly guides that cater to both individuals and groups. Many tours offer snacks or bagged lunches for longer trips. During your trip, be sure to keep your guide busy with questions. They are eager to share stories and provide a better understanding of your rainforest surroundings.

Other Adventures

Hiking, Mountaineering, and Rock Climbing
Major trails are described in the Trail Guide. For more extreme adventurers, the Bella Coola Valley has an abundance of granite for rock climbing, and there are many classic routes in the Coast Mountains for mountaineering and ski-mountaineering.

Cycling
With 80 km (50 mi) of mostly downhill pavement from “The Hill” to the Government Wharf, avid cyclists will not want to leave their wheels behind.

Mountain Biking, ATVing and Dirt Biking
Explore developed trails and logging roads from one end of the Valley to the other.

Motorcycling
Many kilometers of wilderness roads climb up the side valleys onto the mountain slopes, and Highway 20 is certainly a unique country cruise.

Geocaching
There are many geocaches in the Valley and along Highway 20. Go to www.geocaching.com for coordinates.

Boating, Canoeing, Kayaking, Rafting
Bella Coola Valley waterways provide virtually endless opportunities for water craft of various sorts, but adventures must be “bear aware” and mindful of the wilderness conditions. The estuary and somewhat sheltered fjords offer hundreds of kilometers of shoreline to explore, and the rivers provide hours and days of paddling and rowing opportunities. If you don’t have your own, check with the Visitor Information Booth for canoe or sea kayak rental opportunities.

Kite Boarding and Sailboarding
On a nice summer day, check out the inlet from Clayton Falls Creek just west of the Bella Coola Townsite.

Mt. Stupendous in Autumn
Experience The Wild Side
Eagles might see a bald eagle diving for a salmon targeted from high above, or one on a river bar already tearing at its newly snagged feast. They might catch the thrilling experience of seeing a river otter floating idly along the log-strewn shore or a grizzly crashing through the current, launching itself at a salmon.

Three-hour or full-day tours are available with experienced and friendly guides that cater to both individuals and groups. Many tours offer snacks or bagged lunches for longer trips. During your trip, be sure to keep your guide busy with questions. They are eager to share stories and provide a better understanding of your rainforest surroundings.

Other Adventures
Hiking, Mountaineering, and Rock Climbing
Major trails are described in the Trail Guide. For more extreme adventurers, the Bella Coola Valley has an abundance of granite for rock climbing, and there are many classic routes in the Coast Mountains for mountaineering and ski-mountaineering.

Cycling
With 80 km (50 mi) of mostly downhill pavement from “The Hill” to the Government Wharf, avid cyclists will not want to leave their wheels behind.

Mountain Biking, ATVing and Dirt Biking
Explore developed trails and logging roads from one end of the Valley to the other.

Motorcycling
Many kilometers of wilderness roads climb up the side valleys onto the mountain slopes, and Highway 20 is certainly a unique country cruise.

Geocaching
There are many geocaches in the Valley and along Highway 20. Go to www.geocaching.com for coordinates.

Boating, Canoeing, Kayaking, Rafting
Bella Coola Valley waterways provide virtually endless opportunities for water craft of various sorts, but adventures must be “bear aware” and mindful of the wilderness conditions. The estuary and somewhat sheltered fjords offer hundreds of kilometers of shoreline to explore, and the rivers provide hours and days of paddling and rowing opportunities. If you don’t have your own, check with the Visitor Information Booth for canoe or sea kayak rental opportunities.

Kite Boarding and Sailboarding
On a nice summer day, check out the inlet from Clayton Falls Creek just west of the Bella Coola Townsite.
Heli-skiing
Unbelievable depths of stable powder with some of the greatest verticals in North America combine to create the perfect heli-skiing experience. Operations are based at the Airport just west of Hagensborg.

Snowmobiling
The East Branch Creek area near the top of “The Hill” in Tweedsmuir Provincial Park is renowned for its excellent snowmobile terrain and snow conditions. The upper Clayton Falls Creek area (accessible west of the Bella Coola Harbour) is also popular.

Downhill Skiing, Cross-country Skiing and Snowshoeing
The local ski club operates a tow lift on weekends in the East Branch Creek area near the top of “The Hill.” In addition, there are more than 20 km (12 mi) of track set Nordic ski trails at East Branch. Go to www.tweedsmuirki.com for information.

Bear Viewing
Watching a bear foraging is an unforgettable experience! Adventurers driving along Highway 20 into the heart of the Great Bear Rainforest any time from late spring to late fall may chance upon a sow and her cubs grazing on the long grasses along the road side. However, the prime bear-viewing opportunities are in the late spring, and then again in late summer and fall when the salmon are running in the rivers. Large populations of both black bears and grizzlies inhabit the region.

Tours
• Tours are offered by knowledgeable, experienced and accredited bear viewing guides. Among them are those who drift their guests in shallow keel boats quietly down the Attnarko and Bella Coola Rivers, looking for bears and eagles feeding on spawning salmon.
• Accredited trail guides can also take you along forest trails to some of the more remote bear habitats few visitors will ever see.
• Other guides offer a marine experience, taking visitors on excursions of varying length out the inlets for sightings of bears and other wildlife along the shores or estuaries of streams and rivers.

Bear Viewing Station
For visitors not wishing to take a bear-viewing tour, the viewing station at Bella Coola, in Tweedsmuir Provincial Park 30 minutes “up Valley” from Hagensborg, provides a safe way to get close to grizzlies, watching from a platform as the bears dive and splash in the river or snag salmon from the rocky shore. The station is open seven days a week through September and is fully staffed for your safety.

For hours of operation, inquire at the Visitor Information Booth in Hagensborg. Remember: Be bear aware!

Experience World-Class Fishing
The Bella Coola Valley is renowned the world over for its fresh-water fishing. Each year, all five Pacific salmon species return to the Bella Coola River to spawn after maturing at sea. Sockeye, Coho, Chum, Pink—and the prize of them all, the mighty Chinook salmon (variously called Spring, King or Tyee) which often exceed 25 pounds (11 kg) and have been known to weigh more than 50 pounds (22 kg). Year after year, anglers also return to the river and its tributaries, often moving up the river with the runs to the Attnarko River, the Bella Coola River’s major accessible tributary.

Also highly popular with anglers is the pursuit of feisty Rainbow, Dolly Varden, and Cutthroat trout.

Steelhead, an ocean-going rainbow trout, also run in the Bella Coola River system, but fishing for them is prohibited and those caught accidentally must be carefully released.

East of Bella Coola, across the Chilcotin, numerous lakes teeming with Cutthroat and Rainbow trout provide unsurpassed fishing experiences. For instance, the Dean River downstream from Anahim Lake, is designated “Classified Waters” requiring a special licence. Trout fly fishing on the Upper Dean draws anglers from around the world, and on the Lower Dean, inaccessible by road, the summer Steelhead, Spring, and Coho runs are unsurpassed. As fishing is highly regulated and the penalties for violations severe, anglers are advised to consult the fresh-water fishing regulations available locally wherever fishing licences are sold.

Anglers unfamiliar with the area may wish to engage a guide to take them on a guided river drift.

Rafting the Bella Coola River
River drifters getting a view
Arts & Crafts
Beside at special events (See p. 22), the works of artisans can be found in small home workshops and display rooms up and down the Valley.

Unique works may include a traditional quilt or an ‘art’ quilt (to be displayed on the wall), hand-crafted wooden furnishings, painted canvases, or one-of-a-kind hand-crafted high-caliber knives.

Nuxalk Art
While Nuxalk art, largely carved in cedar or silver, is available in retail outlets, it is also hidden away in the home-based workshops of the artists. By asking around, you can create a chance to see a carver chiseling a cedar block into a mask or memorial pole or a group of Nuxalk women weaving cedar bark into rose or lidded containers.

Nuxalk Nation families often invite the entire Valley as well as “outsiders” to share in this age-old custom of formal dedications, feasting, singing, and dancing (with masks, in traditional attire). These events can begin with breakfast and last well into the night, sometimes for days. A potlatch is not staged for spectators: It is a genuine practice that reinforces social structure, affirms ancestral territory, and maintains governance. Visiting participants are often welcome to drop in and may be asked to bring their own plates, cups, and cutlery—nothing more. Check the local bulletin boards and newspaper (or drop by the Nuxalk Administration office at Four-Mile) to learn if a potlatch will occur during your Bella Coola adventure. Visit www.nuxalknation.org.

A potlatch is not staged for spectators: It is a genuine practice that reinforces social structure, affirms ancestral territory, and maintains governance. Visiting participants are often welcome to drop in and may be asked to bring their own plates, cups, and cutlery—nothing more. Check the local bulletin boards and newspaper (or drop by the Nuxalk Administration office at Four-Mile) to learn if a potlatch will occur during your Bella Coola adventure. Visit www.nuxalknation.org.

Performing Arts
From music nights in a lodge dining room, to public performances by a community choir, to full-blown theatrical performances by the Bella Coola Little Theatre Guild and to the annual Bella Coola Music Festival, local and guest entertainers keep things happening. In addition, each spring the Bella Coola Festival of the Arts (affiliated with the British Columbia Festival of the Arts) showcases local talent. (See Events, p. 22.)

The Petroglyphs
An absolute MUST cultural experience for Valley visitors is the short hike to the petroglyphs at Thorsen Creek. Both out of due respect for the Nuxalk people, and to enrich the experience, visitors are strongly urged to engage a Nuxalk guide whose mission is both to protect the site and to share Nuxalk culture through authentic chants and legends.

Nuxalk carver
Here, you will discover, hidden in the lush rainforest moss and items of a canopy forest, rock carvings believed to be at least 3,500 years old. These marvels are firmly rooted in today’s Nuxalk culture like the over-arching hemlock and cedar trees in this hallowed place where winter dances were performed by countless generations. Here, Nuxalk chiefs taught their successors in a landscape that evokes a sacred, cathedral-like awe—a landscape viewed by many as the spiritual heart of the Bella Coola Valley.

Potlatch
Nuxalk Nation families often invite the entire Valley as well as “outsiders” to share in this age-old custom of formal dedications, feasting, singing, and dancing (with masks, in traditional attire). These events can begin with breakfast and last well into the night, sometimes for days. A potlatch is not staged for spectators: It is a genuine practice that reinforces social structure, affirms ancestral territory, and maintains governance. Visiting participants are often welcome to drop in and may be asked to bring their own plates, cups, and cutlery—nothing more. Check the local bulletin boards and newspaper (or drop by the Nuxalk Administration office at Four-Mile) to learn if a potlatch will occur during your Bella Coola adventure. Visit www.nuxalknation.org.

Petroglyphs
Here, you will discover, hidden in the lush rainforest moss and items of a canopy forest, rock carvings believed to be at least 3,500 years old. These marvels are firmly rooted in today’s Nuxalk culture like the over-arching hemlock and cedar trees in this hallowed place where winter dances were performed by countless generations. Here, Nuxalk chiefs taught their successors in a landscape that evokes a sacred, cathedral-like awe—a landscape viewed by many as the spiritual heart of the Bella Coola Valley.

Potlatch
Nuxalk Nation families often invite the entire Valley as well as “outsiders” to share in this age-old custom of formal dedications, feasting, singing, and dancing (with masks, in traditional attire). These events can begin with breakfast and last well into the night, sometimes for days. A potlatch is not staged for spectators: It is a genuine practice that reinforces social structure, affirms ancestral territory, and maintains governance. Visiting participants are often welcome to drop in and may be asked to bring their own plates, cups, and cutlery—nothing more. Check the local bulletin boards and newspaper (or drop by the Nuxalk Administration office at Four-Mile) to learn if a potlatch will occur during your Bella Coola adventure. Visit www.nuxalknation.org.

Arts and Culture

The Bella Coola Museum, located on the Bella Coola Townsite, reflects the varied history of the Valley from the First Peoples, to the early explorers, to the coming of the pioneers, and the building of the ‘Freedom Road.’ The museum is housed in a former schoolhouse and surveyor’s cabin—a heritage log building built in 1892. On display are items brought by Norwegian settlers and photographs that depict the days of the Hudson’s Bay Company trading post.

Nuxalk Nation families often invite the entire Valley as well as “outsiders” to share in this age-old custom of formal dedications, feasting, singing, and dancing (with masks, in traditional attire). These events can begin with breakfast and last well into the night, sometimes for days. A potlatch is not staged for spectators: It is a genuine practice that reinforces social structure, affirms ancestral territory, and maintains governance. Visiting participants are often welcome to drop in and may be asked to bring their own plates, cups, and cutlery—nothing more. Check the local bulletin boards and newspaper (or drop by the Nuxalk Administration office at Four-Mile) to learn if a potlatch will occur during your Bella Coola adventure. Visit www.nuxalknation.org.


Norwegian Heritage House
For a glimpse into the lifestyle of the early Norwegian settlers, visit this site in Hagensborg. The hewn-log house was moved to its present location from its original homestead site 3 km (1.8 mi) up the Valley. A step of interest sign, here, describes the early Norwegian settlement.
Annual Events

January: (The month of the angry moon — when the East Wind blows)
- International Food Fair at Lubeks Hall
- Literacy Fair
- Robbie Burns Day

February: (The moon when there is nothing)
- Cross Country Ski Races at East Branch just past of “The Hill” (Late February or early March)
- Rod & Gun Club Annual Game Dinner and Dance

March: (The moon of the herring spawn)
- April: (The moon for making eulachon nets)
- Bella Coola Festival of the Arts (Affiliated with the B.C. Festival of the Arts)
- Tour de Bella Coola: 60 km (37 mi) of cycling glory. Riders of all ages and agility will enjoy this lightly traveled section of Highway 20 as you pedal this most spectacular part of Highway 20. The ride begins in Bella Coola and heads up the “Hill” for a long leisurely ride. Feel the glory. Riders of all ages and agility start at the Tour de Bella Coola: Bella Coola Festival of the Arts

May: (The moon for making salmon weirs)
- Mother’s Day Barbecue, slow-pitch baseball, beer garden, at Walker Island Park
- Coast Festival/Ocean’s Day: Pysnotropia or sea-slug anyone? Join in a fun family day creek or wharf-side. Volunteers and organizations share their knowledge of salmon and their habitat and the vital role we have as stewards of this aquatic world. Demonstrations and games for all. (May or June)

June: (Spring Salmon moon)
- Art Show at the Valley Gallery
- Bella Coola Rodeo: One of the largest amateur rodeos in Western Canada. A wide event as cowhands show their skill competing in bronc riding, barrel racing and bull riding, to name a few. Food and refreshments. Partake in the popular Bullarama or in the open air dances held nightly with foot-stomping entertainment.
- Bella Coola Music Festival: Enjoy innovative and exciting performances from all across Canada. This family-oriented event boasts an eclectic line-up of music: roots, rock, world, blues, folk and more. The festival features local talent, an interactive children’s site, food and craft vendors and workshops. Link to www.bellacoolamusic.org

July: (The moon when there is nothing)
- Bella Coola Music Festival: Enjoy innovative and exciting performances from all across Canada. This family-oriented event boasts an eclectic line-up of music: roots, rock, world, blues, folk and more. The festival features local talent, an interactive children’s site, food and craft vendors and workshops. Link to www.bellacoolamusic.org

August: (Dog Salmon moon)
- Garden Tour
- September: (Coho Salmon moon)
- Full Fair (Logged Sports): A gnarly down-home old country fair with games, exciting logger sports and children’s train ride. Head to the Fair Grounds at Lubeks for this family fun event.

October: (The moon when fern roots are gathered)
- November: (The moon of dances)
- Arts Council Craft Fair

December: (The moon when the sun rests)
- Numerous holiday events throughout the Bella Coola Valley community

Go to www.bellacoola.ca for a current calendar of events.

ACCOMMODATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internet Service</th>
<th>Kitchen</th>
<th>Dining Room</th>
<th>Lounge and/or Pub</th>
<th>Cabins/ Cottages</th>
<th>Smoking Units</th>
<th>Pets (Please Inquire)</th>
<th>Meeting Room</th>
<th>Laundry Facilities</th>
<th>Car Rental</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anahim Lake Eagle’s Nest Resort</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey Bridge Campsite &amp; Cabins</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Coola Grizzly Tours Resort</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Coola Motel &amp; Campsite</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Coola Valley Inn</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Coola Mountain Lodge</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Coola Eagle Lodge &amp; Campgrd</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coast Mountain Guest House</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottonwood Cottage</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creekside Studio Gallery</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumbrian Inn</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darke Waters Inn &amp; Adventure Lodge</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grizzly Bear Inn RV Park/Campground</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Bear Chalet</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Chilcotin Lodge</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John’s Perch Cabin &amp; Loft</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nusatsum River Guest House</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rip Rap Campsite</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steeproof Ventures</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SunTree Guest Cottages</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailrace Cammy Guest House</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Float House Inn</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tweedsmuir Park Lodge</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whisky Cove B&amp;B</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Details of Accommodation please see Trail Guide, pp. 22 and 23

Bella Coola/Atnarko Guide Service, 2304 Sallooompt Rd Hagensborg BC • 250-982-2470

Bella Coola Valley Inn

“Supporting Lifelong Learning”

www.bcvils.com

Adult & Family Literacy

reading, writing, computers, digital world, and more

NEED HELP? 250-799-5822

Catch The Drift

Enjoy a pleasurable day on the beautiful Bella Coola or Atnarko rivers. Come and catch the big one (Chinook, Coho, Pink, Chum Salmon) on a guided drift or for a change of pace take a scenic trip for Grizzly Bear/wildlife viewing. Licenced and insured • cohoslayer3@hotmail.com

Bella Coola Valley Inn

“Supporting Lifelong Learning”

www.bcvils.com

Adult & Family Literacy

reading, writing, computers, digital world, and more

NEED HELP? 250-799-5822