

Cariboo Rivers Lodge

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DISCOVER THE CARIBOO

Group Art Students, come and celebrate British Columbias 150 Birthday. It has been 200 years since the legendary explorer Simon Fraser discovered the beauty and power of the mighty Fraser River. Explore this one of a kind travel experience, following the path of gold seekers, Visit a 4000 year old native village, Spend a day in a completely preserved 1860`s Gold rush town, Feel the excitement of a jet boat ride. Hike the alpine in the Cariboo Mountains, See wildlife up close in ancient eco systems.

Fly direct from Vancouver, to Quesnel, on the afternoon, or evening flight. The group will be warmly greeted and have a short transfer to Cariboo Rivers Lodge where they will settle in. A delicious dinner will be served in the dining room or on the deck.

Day 1 Gold Rush Tour: A Premier Jet Boat Adventure on the Quesnel River. Photograph Sketch and Explore Historic Quesnel Forks Gold Rush Ghost Town.

Gold Rush Tour: A premier adventure on the Quesnel River

Following the route of the Gold Miners of the 1860's You leave the lodge after breakfast and drive to the Quesnel River launch site at Beavermouth Arriving about 9.30 am when the air has a chance to warm up you board new modern Jet boats. Your trip will take you on an exciting 25 miles up river to the Historic Ghost Town of Quesnel



Forks. Established in 1858 this town saw thousands of Gold seekers who came to seek their fortunes in the surrounding mountains and creeks. Many became rich, others left broken hearted. Visit the cemetery and learn more about miners who crossed the rushing river walking on planks while



carrying their mining supplies. Learn about miners who went up over the snow shoe plateau in the dead of winter with no supplies to stake gold claims in

Richfield.

Trip Details

Jet boat up river, viewing stunning scenery, seeing Bald Eagles, Deer and Black Bears. You will pass by old tailing piles left from the miners during the gold rush. View the remains of a gold dredge that was crushed by winter ice. Your Guide will stop at all points of interest for pictures and fill you in on the local history. During the Great Depression of the 1930's the river came alive again, when over 5000 men returned to the Quesnel River and made a living mining gold along its banks. Fishing rods are carried with us and you can try fly fishing and we have licenses with us. A packed lunch is eaten along the banks of the river as you relax and a campfire is lit from driftwood. Gold pans are brought along and you may get lucky finding a gold nugget... You will arrive back at the lodge exhilarated after your day on the river. Just in time for a superb dinner.



Day 2

**Cultural Experiences: Xat`Sull Native Village,
Step back in time and experience the spiritual and cultural magic of the
traditional way of life of the Northern Shuswap People.**



This exciting Cultural tour can be one or two days. Leaving Quesnel you will Jet Boat down the Mighty Fraser River following the Paddle Wheelers route to the Soda Creek Town site. The Paddle wheelers were used during the gold rush of the 1860`s to move men and materials to the gold fields. The day will see you passing beautiful pinnacle formations, viewing wildlife, and lunching on your own island in the river.

Arriving at Soda creek you will continue a further 2 kilometers to the 4000 year old Xat`sull Native village. You will be greeted and have a cultural tour of this ancient village site. Xats`ull (pronounced hats`ull) translates as “On the Cliff “The traditional pit house and Tee-Pees are on a rock bluff over looking the Fraser River. This location was of great importance to the natives as the great Salmon migrations allowed the catching and storing of salmon for the long winter months.



When the salmon are returning, during your tour of a traditional fishing site, try your hand at dip netting with your native guide. All Salmon are returned to the river alive and unharmed. If you choose you can overnight in one of the tee pees. A sweat lodge provides spiritual rejuvenation using the time proven techniques beneficial to body and soul, so come and reconnect to

Mother Earth. You can have a traditional meal of salmon prepared as a celebration.

You will be told of the first people's culture, customs/language/ beliefs. Story telling of ancient traditions, contemporary issues, learn the Shuswap language, enjoy drumming and singing around the cooking fire. Activities that are available, photograph, sketch tee pees, traditional pit houses,



Crafts instructed in the traditional method include, Drum making \$75, Birch Baskets \$45, Moccasin Making \$ 65, Medicine Pouch \$25, Pine Needle Baskets \$50, Bead Work \$20.

In the evenings the calming omnipresent rush of the mighty Fraser River soothes the drift of primal dreams. The experience of your visit to Xats`ull will remain with you always.

Day 3

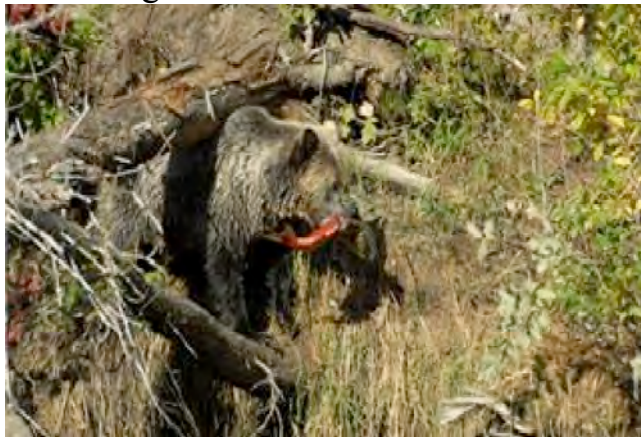
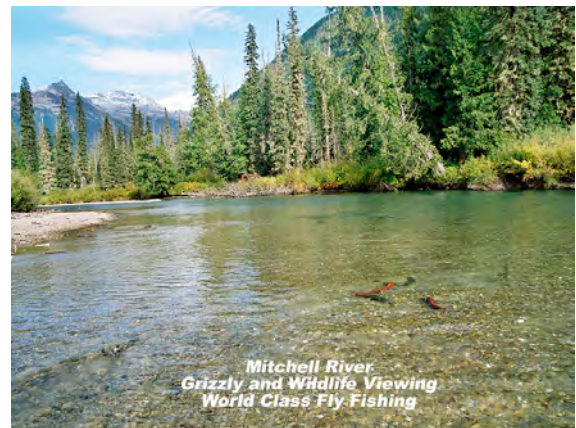
Grizzlies, Salmon, Ancient Cedar Forests

Your day will be spent trekking down Quesnel Lake to the Cariboo



Mountains Park and into the wetlands of the Mitchell and Penfold Rivers. This Eco system is as it has been for all time. Your senses will be rewarded with sights of Salmon swimming in the crystal clear river, beavers swimming with

tree branches in their mouth. Rounding a bend in the river you can spot grizzly bears feeding on the returning salmon. Large Giant Ancient Cedar Forests



surround you so you have the chance to hike in unspoiled wilderness. This adventure can be extended for up to a week by staying at our out post cabin at the end of the North arm of Quesnel Lake. You will need to bring

a telephoto lens for those shots of a life time.



Day 4

Alpine Guided Hiking-

Tremendous views for sketches, photos, water colour paintings. Visit Matthew River Falls. Departing from the lodge we will head out into the back country of the Cariboo Mountains. Our destination is the spectacular Cameron Ridge Trail overlooking the protected Cariboo Mountains Park, the Mitchell River Wetlands, and the North arm of Quesnel Lake. From the ridge you can see over 30 miles on a clear day. This hike can be done with anyone with a moderate fitness level, as



we get up near the top of the mountain using the 4 wheel drive pickups. We use an old mining road and stop at the sub alpine level leaving us a 5 km round trip hike. Taking our time allows us to enjoy the beauty of the



mountains views and of the ice fields in the distant peaks. Expect a long day 12 hours as you will see a lot of country before getting back to town.

Or you can do a shorter adventure Hike the Yellow Hawk Trail: located at 3 kilometer on the Bowron Lake Road. Following it upwards leads you to the alpine

where you over look Barkerville and the Wells area. Continuing up the Whistle Pig trail you get a great view towards the Bowron Lake Park. Round Trip for this hike is about 5 hours.

Supper and a walking tour of Barkerville Historic Gold Rush town can be added on for a full day of fun. Moderate fitness level needed for this hike. Hiking boots recommended many have hiked in there running shoes. Day pack, water bottles, lunch provided,



Day 5

Barkerville Historic Gold Rush Town

In 1860 the cry of GOLD was heard around the world, thousands of fortune seekers headed north into the Cariboo gold fields and the town of Barkerville. It quickly became the largest town north of San Francisco and west of Chicago.

After a hearty breakfast you will be driven 50 miles to Barkerville, to explore BC's number one heritage attraction. A living history museum,



with over 125 heritage buildings. Live stage shows are performed 3 times daily, the same great shows as in the 1860's for the entertainment to starved miners. A full day can be spent checking out

the many attractions Barkerville offers. Try your hand at gold panning; take a stage coach ride, guided tours and demonstrations by costumed interpretive staff.

Walk up to the Richfield Court House where Judge Begbie, also called the hanging judge still holds court. Live court room performances daily 1860's style.

On the drive back we can stop in Wells, another gold mining town left from the roaring thirties. We can visit the art galleries and gift shops. Stop by the Bears Paw café for snacks, coffee, or a mouth watering meal



Cottonwood Historic Road House: There is a short tour by staff in period costume explaining the daily lives of the people who lived and worked here. Located about halfway to Quesnel; this was a stop over for the stage coaches moving people and goods to and from the Barkerville goldfields.

Thank You for choosing us.

Cheers Doug & Teri
Mooring

www.caribooriverslodge.com

