



Bluewater Adventures

**BLUEWATER
ADVENTURES**

Inside Passage Sample Itinerary

Trip Start: The trip starts in Bella Bella, BC and ends in North Vancouver, BC.

The trip start time allows guests to fly into Bella Bella the morning their trip starts. The municipal dock is a 10 minute taxi ride from the airport in Bella Bella. A shuttle will be arranged to meet guests at the Bella Bella airport on Oct 5th to transport you to the Municipal dock in Bella Bella where the Island Roamer will be waiting for your arrival.

Day 1 – Participants will meet at the top of the Municipal Dock in Bella Bella. Upon boarding the ship, cabins will be assigned, an introductory safety briefing completed and then we set sail for the Koeye River located 45 kms. SE of Bella Bella. The Koeye watershed lies within the Great Bear Rainforest. It is more than simply a breath-taking watershed of epic proportions ...it's a newly protected area in Heiltsuk territory that holds thousand year old towering cedar trees and an enormous amount of grizzly bears who feed on the swells of salmon on the Koeye River. It's also a very special place to the Heiltsuk First Nation who have their only bighouse on the mouth of the Koeye River. It is a place where the Heiltsuk sing their songs, dance their dances, where they heal, and where they transfer centuries of knowledge from elders to youth.

Day 2-9 – Weather permitting, we will head out to the beautiful Goose group of islands in search of sea otters. We will spend time in Fitzhugh sound, Cape Caution and Queen Charlotte Strait, all areas known for encountering humpback whales. We now head into the waters of Johnstone Strait off the Northern end of Vancouver Island known for its population of Orca “Killer Whales”. The Johnstone Strait area once supported tens of thousands of Kwakwaka’wakw people. Village and midden sites are everywhere. Now, only a few villages remain inhabited. The modern Kwakwaka’wakw village of Alert Bay preserves their heritage in wonderful carvings, canoes and masks. We will have an opportunity to visit the U’mista Cultural Centre located in Alert Bay. Next we enter the pristine waters of Desolation Sound which are surrounded by steep evergreen mountains, all teeming with the wildest of wildlife. The scenery is less severe than many of the other sheer-sided waterways along the central coast, although just as majestic. Snowcapped peaks of the Coast Mountains soar from the tideline to heights of 7,875 feet (2400 m). Many yachtsmen regard the Desolation Sound area as not only the most beautiful and varied cruising area in BC, but equal to, if not better than any other area in the rest of the world. In the variety of spectacular scenery, warm summer climate, abundance of shelter and anchorages, this area is a microcosm of all that is best about salt water cruising in British Columbia.

We will have an opportunity to visit Jedediah Island which was purchased by monies from the estate of Dan Culver, the former owner of Bluewater Adventures and the provincial government along with an outpouring of donations from British Columbians. Jedediah Island was turned into a Class A provincial park, saving it from being sold to developers. Jedediah Island has much to offer in the way of diverse ecosystems to be studied; it has old growth forests of Douglas fir, western red cedar, arbutus, Rocky Mountain juniper and prickly pear cactus, and the seven kilometre long coastline includes a diversity of inter-tidal and coastal habitats with mud flats, tidal lagoons, rocky coves and numerous sand and pebble beaches. A portion of the island is made up of second growth forests and undisturbed old growth forests. About 10 percent of the island has been modified through clearing, logging, construction of buildings and

agriculture. This beautiful island is a welcoming paradise just waiting to be explored, with many lessons to teach us about coastal environments and our impact on nature.

Day 10 – We will end our tour arriving in North Vancouver, BC at 2:00 pm on October 14th at the Waterfront Park dock in North Vancouver at the end of Chesterfield street, near the Lonsdale Quay Seabus Terminal.

**We do not produce a detailed day by day itinerary in advance of the trip. Our daily plans are flexible to accommodate the surprises that occur each trip, the requirements of tide and weather, and the interests of the group. Wildlife is wildlife and they have their own agenda.*