



Bluewater Adventures: Spring Program Naturalist

[Bluewater Adventures](#) is a well-established, small eco-tourism company that offers multi-day wildlife/nature-based trips aboard motor-sailboats around the central and northern coast of British Columbia in Haida Gwaii, Great Bear Rainforest, Khutzeymateen, Northern Vancouver Island and Southeast Alaska. Our guest season typically runs from May to October, and we run a Spring Program through March & April for school & club groups. Our Spring Program operates on our 68ft Island Roamer and Island Odyssey motor-sailors and have 15 to 18 students accompanied by one or two teachers onboard for 5-day trips. We will send a captain, mate, and naturalist out for these programs.

Job Description

The naturalist has the responsibility for the natural & cultural history program for the students onboard. We want to provide students with a combination of factual knowledge to deepen their understanding, “hands-on” direct experience, and time for reflection. While underway, the naturalist oversees the ‘natural history watch’ on deck - spotting birds, marine mammals, etc. and sharing knowledge with students. No specific curriculum is tied in with our spring program.

Before the trip starts, the naturalist organizes with the captain and crew appropriate times and places for intertidal excursions or other special events. They will also discuss mealtimes and coordinate how best to fit them in around program and work with the Crew/Mate to plan, buy and load food.

While out on trip, the naturalist is responsible for guiding, leading, and interpreting hikes and shore programs. On shore excursions, always plan to have two crew ashore with the group (plus teachers/group leaders). The naturalist will carry the First Aid pack and VHF radio on all shore expeditions. Before going ashore, communicate with other crew and have a timeline for return or radio check-in. While onboard, the naturalist will organize special activities such as fish printing, plant printing, plankton tow, or others. In the evening, they will complete a species list of the day’s sightings with the students as well as plan and facilitate short presentations to tie in with the student’s trip experience. The naturalist is expected to be available to help the skipper and crew on deck at all times including running zodiacs (including safe loading/unloading), supervising kayak use, helping with mooring, docking, sailing and for any first aid or emergency.

There will be adult teachers and sometimes parents onboard, who can quickly become capable supervisors. Make it clear their role is to help supervise students, instruct them on the system and don’t hesitate to delegate tasks and needs.

All crew must be prepared for emergency situations as required by Transport Canada. Crew will be provided safety training and future training in navigation/vessel operations.

Skills Required

- Be familiar with the operation of sailboats - setting sails, docking, anchoring, raising anchor, mooring, and the operation of a windlass
- Have experience operating zodiacs and handling kayaks
- Knowledge of BC coastal mammals, marine mammals, intertidal species, birds, & plants – degree preferred.
- Ability to think quickly and efficiently while in emergency situations and remote wilderness
- Attentive to guest needs and abilities. Able to adapt excursions or programming to meet the needs of the group
- Takes the initiative to make a difference in a challenging and rewarding environment

Certifications (Hold or Obtain):

- Transport Canada - Small Vessel Operators Permit (SVOP)
- Transport Canada - Radio Operators Certificate – Marine (ROC-M or ROC-MC)
- Transport Canada – Basic Safety (MED A1/A2) after 6 mos. of sea time
- 20 Hours Wilderness First Aid (WFA or WFR) + CPR-C (*can be obtained later*)
- Police Record Check with Vulnerable Sector (within last 3 years)

Additional Qualities & Experience

- Experience in travel, education, or outdoor tourism industry
- Strong knowledge of the BC Coast – including boating, wildlife, history, native culture
- Kayak Guiding/Instructing
- Lifeguarding experience
- Driver's License and personal vehicle a benefit

For more information: Visit www.bluewateradventures.ca

Please send your Cover Letter and Resume to info@bluewateradventures.ca