

Coast Mountains & Chilcotin Explorer

ITINERARY

Vancouver - Whistler - Lillooet - Williams Lake - Bella Coola

VANCOUVER VIA WHISTLER TO LILLOOET

From Vancouver, travel north along the spectacular Sea to Sky Highway. Skirting along the fjord-like shore of Howe Sound, admire the glaciated peaks of the Coastal Mountains. Stop to view the majestic Shannon Falls near Squamish. In Whistler, visit the **Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre**, the village's newest attraction. The centre showcases the living cultures of the Squamish and Lil'wat First Nations. Meet with Squamish and Lil'wat people; experience their culture through exhibits, art, food, language, interactive activities and engaging performances, in the traditional territory, in a magnificent forest and mountain setting.

Continue travelling north along the scenic Duffey Lake Road to the town of Lillooet, known as 'Mile 0' on the historic Cariboo Gold Rush Trail. The St'át'imc are the original inhabitants of the territory that includes Lillooet and ten other communities in the surrounding area. Explore their authentic culture with **St'át'imc Cultural Experiences**; experience ancient dipnet fishing and watch a demonstration of the traditional wind-drying techniques of salmon; join an interpretive tour of an ancient village site with over 80 pit houses and caches, some dating back 2,000 years; listen to traditional stories inside a replica pit house while savouring a traditional meal or choose to take an interpretive walk of the Lower Seton spawning channel with excellent bird and wildlife viewing.

While in Lillooet, stay at the **Retasket Lodge & RV Park**. The 3-star motel overlooks the town and the Fraser River and features 20 spacious and comfortable non-smoking rooms. All rooms have two queen beds with comfy duvets, high-speed internet, 27 inch TV with over 40 channels, microwave, bar fridge, hair dryer, alarm clock/radio and in-room coffee/tea. In the morning, enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast.

ATBC MEMBERS

- Retasket Lodge & RV Park
- Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre
- St'át'imc Cultural Experiences

LILLOOET TO WILLIAMS LAKE

From Lillooet, travel north on the Cariboo Highway passing the towns of Clinton and 100 Mile House through vast ranchlands and forests until you reach Williams Lake, the forestry and ranching capital of the region.

37 km north of Williams Lake is **Xats'ull Heritage Village**. Situated on a sunny plateau overlooking the Fraser River, Xats'ull emanates the mystic experience of centuries of Aboriginal culture. Reconstructed traditional pit houses and teepees provide accommodation for visitors. Ancient petroglyphs and artifacts provide proof of some 4,000 years of authentic history and habitation at this site. Intimate story telling and discussions are drawn together with sharing of old ways, crafts and skills. A sweat lodge provides spiritual rejuvenation.

ATBC MEMBER

- Xats'ull Heritage Village

WILLIAMS LAKE TO BELLA COOLA

Bella Coola is located in BC's Central Coast area, where the Bella Coola River meets the Pacific Ocean. Until the opening of the highway in 1953, this region was only accessible by air or ferry. This scenic route travels through Tweedsmuir Provincial Park and is unpaved in sections. Once in Bella Coola, you will have a short drive to **Bella Coola's Eagle Lodge**, a small inn situated on five beautifully landscaped acres in the heart of the Bella Coola Valley. Guests can enjoy a guided tour of the region with its extensive petroglyph sites with their own guide from the Nuxalk First Nations. Other activities in the region include visiting historic sites and museums, visiting with Nuxalk artists, canoeing, river rafting, sailing, nature walks, trail-riding and hiking. There is also an abundance of wildlife viewing opportunities for bears and eagles.

ATBC MEMBER

- Bella Coola's Eagle Lodge



ABORIGINAL
TOURISM ASSOCIATION OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Welcome