



## Cultural Adventure Getaways

Immerse yourself in British Columbia's remarkable First Nations cultural experiences on fascinating Adventure Getaways. Visit ancient traditional fishing villages, examine Aboriginal historical artifacts; discover First Nations arts in totem poles, cedar weaving, paintings, pictographs and more. Learn the myths, legends and stories of various First Nations at Aboriginal cultural centres, or experience the lifestyle firsthand on exciting canoe, kayak and wildlife tours with a First Nations guide. Spend time learning about medicinal plants with an elder, or discover the spirituality of Canada's first people and their deep connection with nature. Get to know BC's living Aboriginal culture like you never thought possible.

### Alert Bay Getaway

DURATION	2 Nights / 3 Days
DATES	May to October, Daily
DESTINATION	Alert Bay on Vancouver Island
GETTING THERE	From Victoria drive 5 hours north to Port McNeill. From Vancouver take BC Ferries to Nanaimo. From Nanaimo drive 3 hours north to Port McNeill. From Port McNeill, a short ferry ride will bring you to Alert Bay. There are also flight options from Vancouver and Victoria.
LODGING SUGGESTIONS	Alert Bay Lodge   Cannery Row Lodge

The traditional home of the Namgis First Nation, part of the Kwakwaka'wakw peoples, Alert Bay is a remote and quaint fishing village in North Vancouver Island. The community of Alert Bay is well-known for its powerful revival of Aboriginal culture and hosts some of the region's finest historical and cultural artifacts, First Nations paintings and totem poles. The world's tallest totem pole (173 feet) can be found in Alert Bay. In addition to enjoying the island's rich cultural heritage, visitors can partake in many other activities such as whale-watching, guided eco-tours, kayaking, hiking and biking.

On this getaway explore the culture of the Namgis with **Culture Shock Interactive Gallery**. Guest can explore traditional and local art forms, or book cultural tours including a canoe paddle, traditional salmon barbeque, cedar weaving and Nasa storytelling. Local First Nation guides will share their living culture of the Namgis.

Alert Bay also boasts the longest-operating First Nation museum and cultural centre, the **U'mista Cultural Centre**. The centre houses the world-renowned Potlatch Collection – U'mista cultural regalia confiscated by the federal government in 1922 and returned in 1980. Now on permanent display, the collection is complemented by a series of rotating exhibits year-round, with tours and stories by local First Nation guides.