



Vancouver Island's Timeless Culture



DURATION 8 Nights / 9 Days
DATES May to October, Daily
ROUTE Vancouver | Nanaimo | Tofino / Ucluelet | Campbell River / Quadra Island | Duncan | Victoria | Vancouver

Travel to Vancouver Island and be enchanted by the ancient legends, magnificent art and living culture of the region's First Nations. Home to the Coast Salish, Nuu-chah-nulth and Kwakwakawa'wakw peoples, Vancouver Island offers a wide range of thrilling Aboriginal experiences and cultural adventures. Explore First Nations hospitality, myths and the timeless culture through art, adventure and wildlife tours, cultural presentations and interpretive centres. Listen to stories told by elders, see stunning totem poles, discover the works of world-class artists in local galleries, relax in an Aboriginal-owned resort, or explore the waterways by canoe with a knowledgeable guide.

SUGGESTED ITINERARY

Day 1-2 Vancouver Exploring

Vancouver is one of the world's most beautiful cities, rich with culture, nature and world-class shopping, dining and hotels. It is also home to the Coast Salish peoples including the Tsleil-waututh, Musqueam and Squamish Nations. Explore Aboriginal culture at the **Klahowya Village in Stanley Park** and discover First Nations treasures at the **Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art** or **Khot-La-Cha Art Gallery and Gift Shop**. Other activities include a canoe adventure with **Takaya Tours** and a guided tour of the Coast Salish art and culture with

Richard Krentz Tours and Jewellery. In the evening, enjoy First Nations cuisine at the **Salmon n' Bannock** restaurant.

Day 3 Vancouver | Nanaimo | Tofino / Ucluelet

Travel by car to Horseshoe Bay and cruise on BC Ferries to Vancouver Island and the city of Nanaimo. Drive north along the Island Highway passing the resort town of Parksville where you will head west on Highway #4 towards the Pacific Rim National Park. Tofino is located in the famed Clayoquot Sound region. This region is bordered by the Pacific Ocean on one side and a centuries-old rainforest and mountains to the other.

You may wish to overnight in Tofino at the **Best Western Tin Wis Resort** or at the **Thornton Motel** in nearby Ucluelet.

Day 4-5 Tofino / Ucluelet Exploring

Explore these quaint fishing villages, walk the famed Long Beach with its miles of sandy beach and pounding surf, discover the rainforest on a selection of well-groomed trails or take a traditional canoe excursion with **TLA-OOK Cultural Adventures**. Offering outdoor experiences by traditional Nuu-chah-nulth dugout canoes, TLA-OOK Cultural Adventures operates their tours within the territory of the Tla-o-qui-aht people.

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Day 6 Tofino / Ucluelet | Campbell River / Quadra Island

Travelling east, towards Parksville, you may wish to visit Cathedral Cove, an area where you can take an interpretive walk through an old-growth forest. Upon reaching the Island Highway, you will drive north to Campbell River, beautifully set between Strathcona Provincial Park to the west and the Discovery Islands to the east. While in Campbell River, you can partake in many outdoor adventures, including fishing and wildlife-viewing. You can also embark on a bear-viewing or whale-watching tour with **Aboriginal Journeys**. Stay overnight in Campbell River or take a short ferry ride to Quadra Island, home of the beautiful **Tsa-Kwa-Luten Lodge, the Oceanfront at Cape Mudge**.

Day 7 Campbell River | Courtenay | Duncan | Victoria

Today, travel from Campbell River to Victoria. Enroute, stop at the **I-HOS Gallery** in Courtenay for First Nations art and at the **Quw'utsun' Cultural and Conference Centre** in Duncan. The centre is owned by the Cowichan Band and invites guests to learn about the culture and heritage of the Cowichan people through interpretive tours and a multimedia presentation.

Day 8 Victoria Exploring

Take the day to explore this beautiful city. Visit the Royal British Columbia Museum



or discover adjacent Thunderbird Park, home to many totem poles and other First Nations monuments. You may also wish to drive to the nearby harbour town of Sidney, where **Sea Quest Adventures**

& Aboriginal Tours welcomes visitors to their traditional territory to discover the rich cultural history of the Coast Salish people on whale-watching and cultural interpretive tours.

Day 9 Victoria | Vancouver

Your tour comes to an end with a sailing aboard BC Ferries to Vancouver.

TRIP OVERVIEW

Day	City	Activities	Hotel Suggestions	km / Day
1	Arrive in Vancouver	Klahowya Village in Stanley Park (Jun - Sep) Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art Salmon' n Bannock Restaurant	Coast Coal Harbour Hotel	N/A
2	Vancouver Exploring	Khot-La-Cha Art Gallery & Gift Shop Traditional canoe / kayak tours with Takaya Tours Richard Krentz Tours and Jewellery	Coast Coal Harbour Hotel	N/A
3	Vancouver to Tofino / Ucluelet		Best Western Tin Wis Resort in Tofino Thornton Motel in Ucluelet	229 km / 1.40 hr Ferry
4-5	Tofino Exploring	TLA-OOK Cultural Adventures - Tofino	Best Western Tin Wis Resort in Tofino Thornton Motel in Ucluelet	N/A
6	Tofino to Campbell River / Quadra Island	Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre - Quadra Island Whale-watching or bear-viewing tours with Aboriginal Journeys - Campbell River	Tsa-Kwa-Luten, the Oceanfront Resort at Cape Mudge	272 km
7	Campbell River / Quadra Island to Victoria	I-HOS Gallery - Comox Quw'sutsun' Cultural and Conference Centre - Duncan	Abigail's Hotel	267 km
8	Victoria Exploring	Royal British Columbia Museum Thunderbird Park Whale-watching with Sea Quest Adventures & Aboriginal Tours - Sidney	Abigail's Hotel	N/A
9	Victoria to Vancouver			70 km / 1.30 hr Ferry
	Tour ends in Vancouver			