

Bear Viewing

Driving into the heart of the rain forest visitors may come across a sow and her cubs grazing on the long grasses along the road side any time from late spring to late fall. Prime bear viewing time, however, is late summer and fall when the salmon are running in the rivers. There are large populations of both grizzly and black bears in the region, with the most sought after for viewing being the grizzly bear.



Photo courtesy BCVT/Michael Wigle

show parts of the valley and the bear's kingdom few visitors encounter. Ocean adventures out the inlet into the fjords of the Central Coast provide opportunity to see grizzlies and other wildlife. Full or half day excursions are available.



Photo courtesy BCVT/Michael Wigle



Bear Aware

If you want to venture out on your own then please remember:

- Never try getting a bear's attention
- Keep food in your vehicle
- Keep a safe distance from the bears, and always give way if they get close
- Keep pets on a tight leash
- Bring your camera and bear spray

Bear Viewing Station

For those not wishing to take a bear viewing tour, the viewing station at Belarko, in Tweedsmuir Provincial Park 30 minutes "up Valley" from Hagensborg provides a safe way to get close to grizzlies, watching from a secure platform as the bears dive and splash in the river or snag salmon from the rocky shore. The station is open seven days a week through September and is fully staffed for viewer safety. Eagles soar above or perch in trees monitoring their feeding grounds before diving to catch a salmon dinner in their talons.

For more information or seasonal details on bear viewing stop in at the Visitor Information Center in Bella Coola.



Tours

Tours are offered by a select number of knowledgeable and experienced local, accredited Bear Viewing guides. Popular bear viewing drifts on the Atnarko or Bella Coola Rivers allow guests to float silently and watch bears and eagles feeding on wild salmon. Hiking tours with accredited guides will also take you to some of the hidden bear habitats and

Bear Viewing is sponsored by:



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