

Marine Tours

Your marine adventure begins at the Government Wharf with a cruise past Tallheo cannery, once a hive of activity in the heyday of fish canning before the long-haul packer boat. Further out the inlet, marvel at the ancient fish traps, petroglyphs and pictographs, indelible signs left on the rocky shores and cliffs by First Nations people who paddled along these fjords more than 10,000 years ago.



Photo courtesy Chris Carlson

Taking a Hot Dip

Relax and soak away your cares in the hot soothing waters of a seaside wilderness hot spring. Natural hot springs, accessible only by aircraft or boat, are just a day charter away from the Bella Coola Harbour, unless you rent or bring your own sea kayaks (Be prepared for an overnigher.) Perhaps sight some dolphins, seals, or eagles on the way out. The springs are sacred sites to the Nuxalk people, who have enjoyed their healing powers for millennia, so respect them as you might a gothic cathedral.

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Seeing BIG – Feeling Small

If you've never been humbled by the awe that comes with standing under the dark, swooping branches of a botanical wonder, here's your chance: The Big Cedar Tree, just a short hike up from the beach, measures 18 feet (over 5 m) in diameter, and was a seedling during the late Roman Empire 1,500 years ago.



Photo courtesy Michael Wigle

Mackenzie's Rock

Alexander Mackenzie from Canada by land 22nd July 1793; So reads the vermilion inscription daubed on a rock standing on the shore at the mouth of Elcho Harbour in the Dean Channel. This was the western terminus of Mackenzie's daunting adventure - the first recorded trek across the North American continent some 12 years before the more famous but far less arduous journey by American Explorers Lewis and Clark.

Cascade Inlet

You make another historic connection with the 1793 tall-ship voyage of Captain George Vancouver, who named this fjord for the myriad waterfalls cascading down the sheer granite cliffs. Be sure to bring your binoculars to get a close-up look at families of the majestic mountain goats clinging to the rocky crevices and narrow ledges of the sheer cliffs plunging into the inlet.



Photo courtesy Leonard Ellis

Hooking the Big Ones

The Bella Coola Harbour is a great departure point for saltwater anglers heading out to enjoy the bounty of marine life while taking in the pristine scenery of the Central Coast. Cruise along the sheer cliffs plunging deep into glacial fjords as deep as 600 meters (2,000 feet).

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