



WATERWAYS

Natural History Coastal Adventures

SPRING 2015

Quotes from you...

"It was a trip of a lifetime! We enjoyed every single minute, it was full of magic moments, it got in our souls and minds and bodies, we felt deeply relaxed and enriched and grateful and happy and joyous and harmonized and sensitized – what a beautiful world out there, what a paradise at risk."

K.O. – Austria

"...Watching the humpbacks bubble-net; the naturalist call the wolves and their response; grizzlies playing (mock fighting in the water); sailing with full sails; the dolphins travelling with us, the wonderful crew..."

L.M. – Washington

"The flow of "magic" into each day was perfect. The skills of the team kept finding 'nature' at its finest. We were connected to the Haida through the passion of the full crew. Very positive energy!"

B.K. & B.K. – Ontario

"The Captain shared great attention to the desires and needs of all the guests and crafted an experience from the opportunities afforded by this marvellous nature preserve."

E.S. – Victoria, BC

Northern Vancouver Island - Orcas, Totems & Grizzlies

As one of Bluewater Adventures' original itineraries, [Northern Vancouver Island](#) provides a wealth of wildlife and fascinating First Nations culture. North of Campbell River, the world changes – people are few and far between and the coast takes on a rocky



The rich waters and currents attract humpback whales, Pacific white-sided dolphins, Dall's porpoise, minke whales and sea lions, creating a wonderful, non-stop collage of marine mammal viewing. However, for the few people able to access the

Neil Shearer



Charlene Barringham

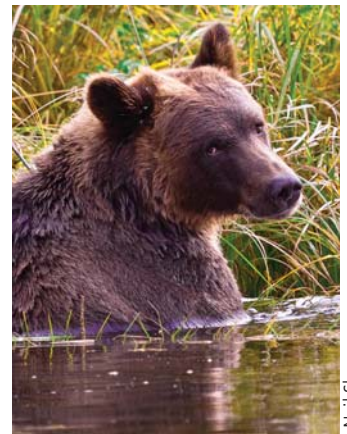
Totem poles are iconic to Pacific Northwest native cultures. They commemorate people and represent family crests.

ruggedness. But it isn't just the dramatic landscape providing the highlights. As the Pacific Ocean narrows into the protected waters of Johnstone Strait it forms a funnel for millions of returning salmon. It is a prime feeding area for Orcas (or killer whales) and arguably the best place in the world to view them.

deep wilderness fiords across on the mainland there is the opportunity of viewing grizzly bears.

On all our trips, we engage with local Kwakwaka'wakw First Nations to learn about their history, culture and art and have permission to visit one of the old villages.

Grizzlies visit estuaries in remote coastal fiords to feed on sedge and spawning salmon.



Neil Shearer

Whales of Southeast Alaska

Just confirmed... famed humpback whale specialist, Dr Fred Sharpe, will be leading one of the top whale itineraries aboard MV Snow Goose. You may recognise him from the recently released IMAX movie, "Humpback Whales", shot in Alaska on the Snow Goose. Fred has been studying their unique cooperative feeding behaviour for the last 2 decades and received a doctorate for his extensive work on the subject. In addition, this trip will take our small group of travelers to Anan Creek Wildlife Observatory to witness some of the best bear viewing in the world. Stunning

The spectacular sight of a group of bubble-net feeding humpback whales.

Alaskan scenery provides the perfect backdrop for this not-to-miss trip! **July 24 – August 2, 2015 / Sitka – Wrangell, AK / USD \$5420 + \$100 sustainability fee**



Dan Liden



Quotes from you...

"The breadth of the experience – educational, nature and sailing. We had a fabulous day at SGang Gwaii and finding whales. Fabulous weather. Captain Gold was excellent. It was hard to comment on the Haida Watchmen as they were all clearly in awe of him."

S.G. & D.G. –
Toronto, ON

"So pleased that I was able to experience this most amazing wild-life adventure. I leave the Island Roamer a little bit wiser, a lot more knowledgeable and utterly awestruck at your beautiful backyard."

K.R. – Australia

"Lovely ship, comfortable, warm, plenty of space for all."

A. & G. LH. – Perth,
Australia

"We learned a lot from top teachers who were well informed and articulate."

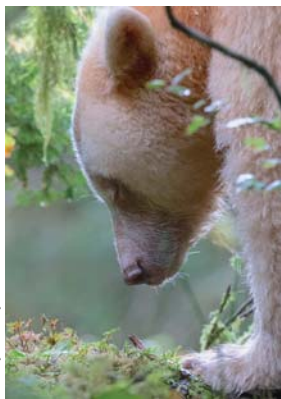
D.W. & M.W. – California



New Itineraries

Great Bear Rainforest and Khutzeymateen

Combine the highlights of the Great Bear Rainforest and the Khutzeymateen in one great voyage. Beginning in Prince Rupert, we head north to the Khutzeymateen Grizzly Bear Sanctuary – home to some 60 grizzlies. We spend 2 days here exploring estuaries from the safety of our zodiacs. We then follow the protected waters south to Grenville Channel and our Gitga'at guide's favourite place to see the Spirit Bear. We are in prime humpback feeding areas giving us excellent



Jenny Varley

chances to see their unique "bubble-net" feeding behavior. We often end the day with a soothing soak in natural hot springs. Our final destination is Kitimat – just north of the small First Nations village of Hartley Bay.

A once in a lifetime chance to see a Spirit bear.

The Value of Conservation

Protecting natural habitat is an investment in the future. If we ensure that large carnivores like grizzly bears and wolves have enough habitat to thrive, we can be assured that we are also taking care of the diversity of smaller creatures – birds, insects, fish. Many people don't understand the importance of the connection between "protecting nature" and "human wellbeing," the fragile balance and how interconnected all species are on the planet. For example, if we no longer have enough salmon on the Pacific coast, not only won't be able to enjoy wild salmon for dinner, but grizzly numbers will plummet and we could lose our iconic Orcas (already listed as endangered). So, Bluewater Adventures focuses on the importance of education –



Wild West Coast of Haida Gwaii

Explore the beauty and wilderness of the rarely seen west side of Haida

Gwaii – now protected as the Duu Guusd Conservancy.

See wonderful ancient Haida villages, wild beaches, offshore birds, whales and sea lions colonies. Tour highlights, weather permitting, include visits to the ancient villages of Kiusta, Kung, Yan, Cha'atl. This trip is for the true adventurer. Exploring and sailing on the exposed, west coast will bring a select group of participants to some marvellous and seldom visited sites; this amounts to a challenging itinerary. Participants need to be in good health and fitness to fully enjoy the experience.

Burke Museum art historian Dr. Robin Wright leads the voyage.



Explore wild westcoast Haida Gwaii beaches.

Lindsay James

not only on wildlife but the greater ecosystem.

While education is fundamental to helping people understand environmental challenges and their economic consequences, it doesn't necessarily lead to action. Often people need an emotional connection; the direct experience of seeing that animal or issue up close before they are willing to commit time and money to action. Parks and protected areas don't get created without people writing letters and financially supporting the organizations leading the charge. In some cases, it takes millions of dollars to create an innovative solution. For example, when Raincoast Conservation bought the grizzly hunting territory from a hunting guide; the guide happily retired and hundreds of bears were protected.

So, Bluewater Adventures takes people out to experience the wonder of nature, bears, whales and this amazing coast; and we are happy when inspired passengers then choose to get directly involved in conservation efforts.

It is why we operate [Conservation Voyages](#) – such as our **June 18-24 North Coast/Khutzeymateen** voyage with Raincoast Conservation. It is an opportunity to understand wildlife traveling with a renowned scientist; and the ecological connections and challenges.

Special 2015 Resource Guides

Haida Gwaii

These mythical islands are the most western point in Canada. Known as Canada's Galapagos, they have a fascinating diversity of wildlife and are home to the Haida and their iconic totem poles.

- Nathalie MacFarlane, past director of the Haida Gwaii Museum joins us **June 14-22** to bring a fabulous combination of anthropology and local knowledge.
- **July 15-22**, University of Toronto Biology Professor, Christoph Richter leads a U of T Alumni group.
- Famed Haida carver, Robert Davidson, shares his Haida culture, art and homeland **July 22-29**.
- Haida elder, original Watchman and SGang Gwaii World Heritage Site specialist, Captain Gold joins us again **August 6-13**.



Pacific white-sided dolphins captivate as they play under the bow.

Northern Vancouver Island

The best place in the world to see Orcas (and other whales and dolphins). See grizzlies deep in the mountain fiords and learn about the First Nations art and culture.

- Rob Lott from the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society returns to his second "home" and the orcas of Johnstone Strait – **August 21-27**.

North Coast / Kluane

Canada's only grizzly bear sanctuary. The surrounding area has a wonderful collection of islands to explore and whales to discover.

- Raincoast Conservation's, Dr. Paul Paquet, joins us **June 18-24**



A majestic bald eagle swoops down into a curious group of juvenile Steller sea lions in Southeast Alaska.

Southeast Alaska

Stunning whale behavior, bear viewing at two renowned sites and glaciers.

- Much loved Bluewater naturalist, Lindsay Janes leads the **July 6-16** voyage.
- Whale researcher, Dr. Fred Sharpe brings in-depth knowledge of feeding humpback whales – **July 24- August 2**.



A night at anchor so quiet and peaceful, you can photograph the moon.

Great Bear Rainforest

Home of the rare Spirit bear, grizzlies, humpback whales and remarkable fiord scenery - this area is under threat from proposed oil tankers and pipelines.

- Biologist and international trip leader, Sherry Kirkvold leads our trip **September 23-30**.
- Bear researcher, Grant MacHutchon returns **Sept 24-October 1** at the height of the salmon run and bear viewing season.

Our New Website

Bluewater Adventures is excited to officially launch our new website. Being a small organization, we rely on the internet to help us to connect with people around the globe. Our website is our strongest marketing tool to keep folks interested and inspired; and it takes some TLC to keep it optimized and full of the latest news and stories. Our new website contains the spectacular information from the original version, is easier to read and navigate, and now formatted to work on your favourite handheld devices. Please let erin@bluewateradventures.ca know if you ever notice a problem – happy surfing!

www.bluewateradventures.ca

On the Horizon - 2016

Plan Ahead ! The Bluewater 2016 trip schedule is now available on our website. If you want to get aboard some of our most popular trips – the Great Bear Rainforest or Westcoast Haida Gwaii – we highly recommend you plan ahead. They sell out early. Contact us for details.

Need More Info?

If you want to check availability or find out more details about a particular trip, please contact the Bluewater office. Telephone toll-free 1-888-877-1770. Erin, Debra and Randy are happy to answer your questions. Contact us via email at explore@bluewateradventures.ca.





Bluewater Adventures

The Most Experienced Captains on the Coast

Quotes from you...

"The trip was charmed and everything... appeared on cue. Incredible wildlife sightings; whales, orcas, bears, THE SPIRIT BEAR. Wonderful scenery – incredibly good ship handling, navigation, sailing, boat work. The Island Odyssey is a sheer delight! She is beautiful of line, well balanced, wonderfully appointed and finished. As a sailor I could spend a lifetime sailing in her!"

B.B. – Ontario

"I was in awe of the harmony, the peace and the love and joy that you and your crew helped to create. You have shown us the spirit of Haida Gwaii, its water and land, its people past and present, her animals and forests. You have infused Haida Gwaii into our souls. Now we sail from this place to our homes and tell her spirit."

B.K. & E.K. – Ontario

Join us – We're Social



BLUEWATER ADVENTURES



Randy Burke

After 28 years in command of Island Roamer and Bluewater Adventures, Randy brings a wealth of coastal experience and knowledge to each trip. With an education degree and background in experiential learning with Outward Bound he loves providing "experiences".



Neil Sheerar

Neil is the nautical genius that keeps our yachts running smoothly, working year round for the company. He has a passion for "creating" each trip anew, relishing the flexibility we have to take advantage of unexpected wildlife encounters and sharing his long-standing relationships with First Nations along the coast. 16 years with Bluewater.



Xander Oldaker

Xander is a true adventurer. Calm, clever and engaging he is as comfortable in the middle of the Atlantic (during one of his annual yacht deliveries), kayaking in the high Arctic hundreds of miles from civilization, or exploring the remote wilderness of the BC and Alaska coast with Bluewater Adventures for the last 11 years. His motto – "follow the magic".



Steve Roberts

Steve has grown up with Bluewater. He started over 10 years ago as a crew member and quickly demonstrated the aptitude and hands-on knowledge to move to year round employment, then becoming a Captain in 2011. He knows the intricacies of these yachts and this incredible coast as well as anyone.



Brian Falconer

As the former owner of Maple Leaf Adventures, Brian has been sailing this coast for over 35 years. Few people can compare with his experience, passion and commitment to coastal conservation. When he isn't leading trips for Bluewater, Brian works with the Raincoast Conservation Foundation.



Dan Liden

Growing up in a shipbuilding and shipping family in Bellingham, Washington, Dan's work as Captain aboard Snow Goose combines his passions – education, boats and exploring nature. After many years of teaching and working in Southeast Alaska since 1996, he committed full-time to our Alaska nature trips in 2007.

All Captains must be Ministry of Transport / Coast Guard certified for passengers vessels. Bluewater Adventures operates to a higher standard of safety than many other vessels along the BC and Alaska coast.

School Programs

Each year, Bluewater supports over 300 high school students on 5-day Coastal Biology and Sail-Training voyages.

"I am happy to tell you that our [Bluewater Adventures] programming has gone so well at the school that we are now offering a marine biology option class to our grade eight students next year. We currently have over 60 students enrolled in it. Kudos to your amazing staff for hooking our students!"

L.M. - GS Lakie Middle School, Calgary AB

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