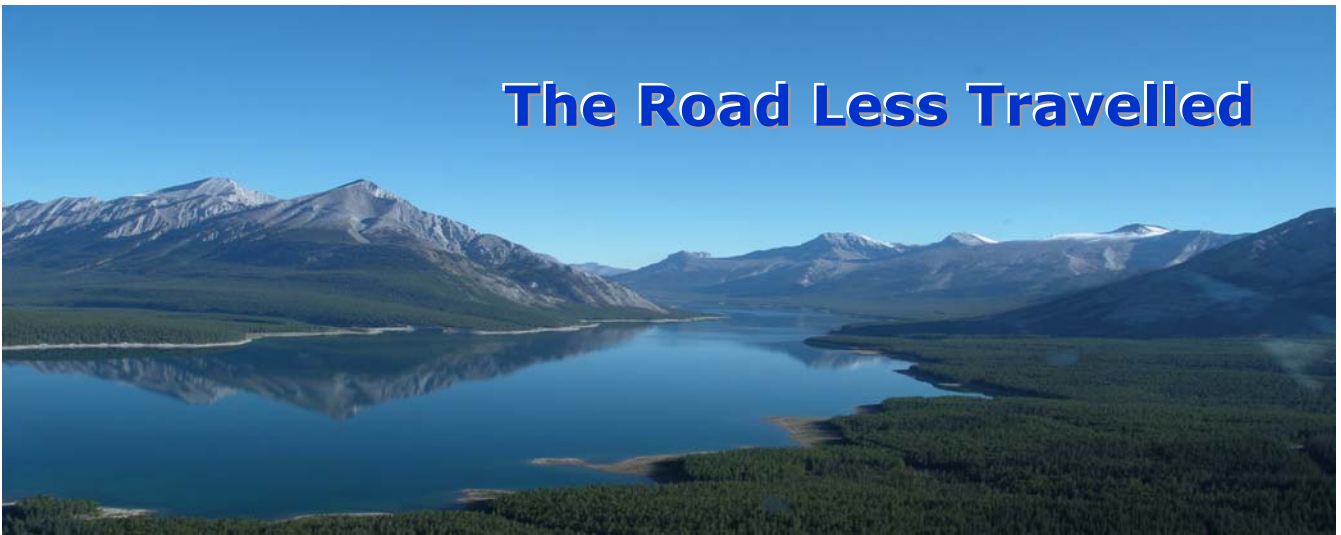


# The Road Less Travelled



**With this amazing trip from Calgary to Vancouver you enjoy many of the best kept secrets of British Columbia. Travel by 4x4 Jeep away from the main roads, sleep in wilderness lodges, ranches and country inns. You have plenty of opportunities to enjoy a wide choice of activities: hiking, canoeing, cycling, wine tasting, fishing, horseback riding, observing marine life, and even whales or bears in season. All this while going through a wide diversity of majestic landscapes. End your trip in Vancouver, one of the most beautiful cities in North America.**

## **16 days/15 nights - Calgary-Vancouver Off-Road Wilderness Adventure (Independent Self-Drive or Guided Group Tour)**

### **Day 1: Arrival in Calgary**

Arrival at Calgary Airport. Rental car pick-up and overnight in Downtown Calgary.

### **Day 2: National Parks in the Rockies – Wilderness Lodge (250 km)**

We leave the city in the prairie and drive towards



the mountains, visit Banff National Park, look for elk and bears, take the gondola to the Sulfur Mountain and enjoy the panorama. We follow the picturesque

Bow Valley Parkway to Lake Louise, with its famous Chateau by the turquoise waters. We drive to the wilderness lodge near Kootenay National Park.

### **Day 3: Biking, Hiking, Canoeing and Rafting\***

An entire day is at our disposal in this wonderful landscape to bike or hike in the Rockies, or raft on the Kootenay River.

### **Day 4: Crossing over the Purcell Mountains**

**(approx. 350 km)** - We leave the wilderness lodge in the early morning and practice off-road driving on a trail that soon leads us to the natural Hot

Springs of Lussier. We continue to drive east over mountain passes, on remote roads if we choose so. Overnight in the area of Nelson at a beautiful inn or B&B.

### **Day 5: Kootenay - Okanagan Valley (370 km)**

We take a picturesque journey along the lakes, interrupted by ferry trips, leading up to the mountains, to Monashee Pass with rich green vegetation and down to the Okanagan Valley. We spend the next 2 nights in Kelowna.



### **Day 6: Winery Tours in the Okanagan Valley (330 km)**

The Okanagan Valley has the best wines and we will enjoy visiting wineries or orchards. This area is also a paradise for golfers.

### **Day 7 -8 : Gold Rush - Freedom Highway (ca. 700 km)**

This day is a long day on the road through the arid areas of the Thompson Okanagan and on the Goldrush Trail to the Cariboo Country. Another highlight of this journey is the trip on the "Freedom

Highway" through the Chilcotin. The area is less touristy and thus little developed.

From a plateau with hills, rivers, blue lakes and dense forests, the landscape changes into harsh mountains covered with glaciers covered mountains, where the roads lead no where. We interrupt our trip and enjoy two nights on the Chilcotin Plateau in a lodge or cabin at one of the picturesque lakes. Various activities\* are available such as boat rides and fishing on the lake, walking, riding, or a flight with the floatplane (not included) over the magnificent mountains and glaciers of the Coast Mountains.

#### **Day 9 – 10: Chilcotin – Bella Coola (200 km)**

This is a scenic drive on the plateau that takes us on the gravel road in to Tweedsmuir Provincial Park. Arriving at the pass at about 1500 m elevation, the steep road takes you down on sea level into the Bella Coola Valley where we stay for two nights. Enjoy a day of guided activity, a hike\*, a raft trip\* or a bearwatching trip (not included) in late summer.

#### **Day 11: Discovery Passage**

We leave Bella Coola early in the morning and take the ferry to Port Hardy on Vancouver Island.\*



With a little luck, we will see killer whales, dolphins and eagles in the ride through impressive fjord landscapes, called "Discovery Passage" by the locals. Depending on the date of our travel the ferry may stop at different islands and remote villages.

The direct ferry sails late evening into Port Hardy on the north tip of Vancouver Island.

\* There are three different departure times

#### **Day 12 - 13: Quadra Island (240 km)**

We drive south through endless forests until we arrive at Campbell River. A short ferry ride takes us to Quadra Island and to the beautiful, traditional style Tsa Kwa Lutén Lodge. We enjoy the afternoon and evening in this idyllic place. The following day, we take a marine life watching trip\* (with likely whale sightings from early July on).

#### **Day 14: Quadra Island – Vancouver (170 km)**

We choose the "scenic route" to Vancouver along the Sunshine Coast. In the afternoon, we arrive at

Vancouver and stay in a lively area at English Bay near Stanley Park.

#### **Day 15: Vancouver**

Vancouver offers many possibilities: visit of Stanley Park, shopping at Granville Island and Gastown. Enjoy delicious meals, including local seafood.

#### **Day 16: Departure**

Last opportunities for further adventures in the big city of Vancouver, be it in shopping malls or with roller blades or a bicycle in Stanley Park.

#### **Additional Options**

This itinerary can be customized in duration and activities; 2-3 day Bear Watching in the area of Wells Gray Provincial Park or the northern coast of Vancouver Island; a cultural program on the west coast of Vancouver Island – Clayoquot Sound.

#### **INDEPENDENT TRAVELLERS:**

**Price per person double occupancy**

**From CAD 4,200 + 5 % GST tax**

#### **Included independent travellers:**

- 4x4 vehicle
- Ferry: Discovery Passage
- 15 nights in hotel/lodge/cabin/teepee
- All meals in the Chilcotin
- Continental Breakfast in Bella Coola & Vancouver
- Entrance fees according to the program
- Activities marked with an asterisk

#### **GROUPS (minimum: 8 participants)**

#### **Dates 2010:**

June 11 – 26

September 3 – 18

Price per person based on double occupancy

**CAD 6,350 + 5 % GST tax**

#### **Included group:**

- Transport by 4x4
- Driver / guide
- 15 nights in hotel/lodge/cabin/teepee
- All breakfasts, 2 lunches, 5 dinners
- Activities as per program description plus wine sampling and bike city tour in Vancouver

#### **Not included Independent Travellers/Groups:**

- Flight to/from Canada
- Food & beverages which are not mentioned
- Gratuities
- Optional activities
- 5 % GST tax



## **CREATIVE WESTERN ADVENTURES LTD.**

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