



### **VANCOUVER ISLAND ALPINE TO OCEAN**

*8 day west coast adventure featuring a 5 day kayak trip to Nootka Sound*

Journey to Canada's west coast for an unforgettable adventure vacation. Internationally acclaimed for its pristine natural beauty and superb range of exhilarating outdoor activities, Canada's Vancouver Island is a paradise for those seeking adventure. Few Canadian adventures compare to witnessing an Orca arcing out of the water or standing beneath a towering ancient Douglas fir tree - a majestic 800 year-old pillar.

This 8 day adventure vacation combines a few lodge nights in the Alpine Mountain environment of Strathcona Provincial Park with a 5 day kayak trip to the spectacular Nootka Sound. Nootka Sound is one of the most remote and rugged areas to kayak on the west coast of Canada. The Nootka area is a wild coastline with remote beaches, dense rainforests populated with wolves and bears and the lingering presence of aboriginal culture.

#### **DAY 1**

Arrive at Mountain Lodge between 4 and 5 p.m. Settle into your room, relax and begin to take in the beauty of the surrounding area. Catch a quick swim in the lake before a 5 pm rendez-vous with your instructor and group. Enjoy a fantastic meal with the anticipation of adventure in the air. Wasting no time, jump into kayaks post-dinner to practice your skills (strokes, rescue techniques and safety procedures) in the sheltered waters of Upper Campbell Lake. Complete out-trip preparations.

Mountain Lodge accommodation.

#### **DAY 2**

Depart by Lodge transport to Tuta Marina on Muchalat Inlet.

Board the Kayak Mothership named MV Uchuck III. This is a 136-foot passenger and freight vessel that will act as your base camp and support your group as you cruise from Gold River to Nootka Sound through the spectacular inlets along Vancouver's rugged and incredibly scenic West Coast.

Your Journey to Nootka Sound features intact old-growth forest stands, rolling mountains and lush ecosystems. Coastal features include rocky headlands, winding fjords, long stretches of uninhabited beach, and an abundance of sheltered beaches. The first residents of Nootka Sound were the Mowachaht and Muchalaht peoples, who had a rich existence

and culture based on whaling and river fishing. There are hieroglyphs on some rock faces and some caves contain Mowachaht and Spanish burial sites.

Our kayak journey begins with a unique “drop” from the mothership. Paddle a short distance to the beautiful pebbled beach at Burdwood Bay. Camp in a private spot among the driftwood with an uninterrupted view of the Pacific Ocean.

Camping accommodation in Nootka Sound.

### **DAY 3**

The Nuchatlitz Marine Park offers both exposed coast and protected waters for paddling, quiet coves and a myriad of beaches. The Park protects a great diversity of flora and fauna within an extensive range of terrestrial, intertidal and marine environments vital habitat for BC's recovering sea otter population. One of the largest otter populations in the world lives in this area and rafts of a hundred are not uncommon.

Ocra and gray whales can be spotted further offshore at varying times of the year. Along the shorelines, kayaking Nootka Sound provides opportunity to spot wolves, sea otter, sea lions, black bears, cougars, and bald eagles. After a day of exploring, relax and enjoy a hearty meal around the fire.

Camping accommodation in Nootka Sound.

### **DAYS 4 & 5**

Moving down the coast to the perfect beaches at Escalante, swim in river pools, play in the surf and explore this very isolated area's incredible beaches.

Camping accommodation in Nootka Sound.

### **DAY 6**

In the early morning, explore Yuquot (Friendly Cove), the First Nations site where Chief Maquinna of the Nu-chah-nulth people welcomed Captain Cook. Lot's of time to hike the beaches, swim, and visit the lighthouse and historical Spanish church and graveyard. Paddle to the Spanish Pilot Islands to camp for the night.

Camping accommodation in Pilot Islands.

### **DAY 7**

Paddle to Tuta Marina and return to the Mountain Lodge.

Mountain Lodge accommodation.

## **DAY 8**

Breakfast.

Departure.

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Please note - Intended routes and schedules may be altered in order to improve the tour and your experience due to weather conditions.

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### **2010 Departures:**

- June 26 - July 3, 2011
- July 10 - July 17, 2011
- July 24 - July 31, 2011
- Aug 8 - Aug 15, 2011
- Aug 15 - Aug 22, 2011

**Cost is:** CAD \$1,998 per person plus GST

**Cost includes:** 7 nights' accommodation (two lodge and five nights camping), meals and out-trip food (from dinner on arrival day through breakfast on departure day), all group equipment including single or double kayaks, PFDs, tents (two-person), transportation within the package, instruction and guiding services of an experienced outdoor leader(s).

**The cost does not include:** GST (5% federal tax) or PST (provincial tax)

Trip is subject to a minimum of 2 persons and a maximum of 10.

Clients will be sent an equipment list and a medical/liability form prior to arrival.