



BIG ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS?



Exploring British Columbia's rugged coastline since 1994



BIG ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS BC

EXPLORING SINCE 1994

We are the longest running marine tour company in the region.

The Campbell River area is ideally situated for some of the best marine encounters in British Columbia. With the narrow inlets, fast currents and an abundance of nutrients in the water, the area attracts a high concentration of whales, marine mammals, coastal birds and bears.

From your initial contact with our friendly and professional crew, we pride ourselves on ensuring that your day with us is a safe and **unforgettable Canadian experience**. As soon as you depart from the harbour you will be surrounded by towering mountain ranges, whirlpools, and beautiful islands.

We offer small, intimate and **immersive experiences** with a maximum of 12 passengers per vessel. We can accommodate free independent travellers, larger tours, or private groups.

- Orca 
- Humpback 
- Dolphin 
- Sea lion 
- Grizzly bear 
- Eagle 



VISIT OUR
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
COASTAL GIFT
SHOP!



MEET THE LOCALS



ORCA / KILLER WHALE

Largest member of the dolphin family. Highly social, sophisticated hunters, apex predators. Iconic resident and transient populations are found in BC.



HUMPBACK WHALES

Adults grow to 16 meters and weigh up to 30 tons! They migrate up to 15,000 miles each year, feeding on krill and small fish. A real crowd pleaser!



WHITE-SIDED DOLPHIN

Often seen in close-knit groups of 10-100, they love to bow ride! The Pacific white-sided dolphin live up to 40 years, and have their own unique names.



DALLS PORPOISE

Found only in the waters of the North Pacific and growing up to 2.3 meters in length, they feed on schooling fish and live up to 22 years.



HARBOUR SEALS

Each seal has its own unique pattern, they also lack an ear flap, just a canal. Growing to 1.8 meters and 130kg's, they inhabit much of BC's coast.



SEA LIONS

We're lucky enough to have the world's largest species - Steller sea lions, and the smaller California sea lions (noted by their high, domed forehead).



GIANT PACIFIC OCTOPUS

The largest species in the world, with an incredible arm span of over 4-6 meters! The GPO can sometimes be seen as food for hungry sea lions.



GRIZZLY BEARS

A Canadian icon with large coastal males standing over 3 meters tall! They hibernate for 5-7 months of the year, and feed on salmon and berries.



BLACK BEAR

Better eyesight, hearing and sense of smell than a human. Feeding mainly on vegetation during dusk or dawn light. Often seen along the BC coast.



BALD EAGLE

An iconic species found swooping down and feeding on fish, with a typical wingspan of 2 meters. It takes up to 5 years to attain their white heads.



GREAT BLUE HERON

Weighing around 2kg's, but with a wingspan of nearly 2 meters! Found stalking the shallow water and feeding on small fish, swallowing them whole!

BIG ANIMAL MOB
ENCOUNTERS

WHALE AND WILDLIFE TOURS

2 HOUR MARINE WILDLIFE TOUR
4 HOUR WHALE & WILDLIFE TOUR
7 HOUR BIG ANIMAL ENCOUNTER

Join us as we cruise the local inlets, bays, and tidal rapids in search of large marine animals. Our naturalists help you look for humpback whales, orcas/killer whales, inquisitive sea lions, harbour seals, bald eagles, and even playful dolphins. Multiple daily departures.



HEAR THE WHALE SONG!
Our vessels are equipped with hydrophones, enabling you to actually hear the whales and dolphins as you see them!



BIG ANIMAL .COM
ENCOUNTERS

GRIZZLY BEAR EXPEDITION

**PRIVATE
GROUP TOURS**

Charter any of our boats for private and customizable tours for groups up to 12!

Welcome aboard a scenic two hour boat ride through spectacular Desolation Sound, where you'll be met by members of the Homalco First Nations, in their traditional territory. You'll be taken by road into the Great Bear Rainforest for a three hour land tour, where the *χawgæs* (grizzly bear), descend on the river to feast on salmon. Bute Inlet is one of the few places in the world where you can view grizzly bears on a single day marine tour. A stunning combination of scenery, marine life, First Nations culture, and grizzly bears - a signature Canadian experience.





SPECIAL EVENTS & GROUP TOURS

Whether it be a family reunion, wedding weekend or larger tour group our team will ensure that your day on the water with us will be special and unforgettable experience. We have a multitude of vessels including heated and covered coastal cruisers as well as thrilling zodiac boats. We are able to accommodate groups of up to 50 passengers, and are able to arrange shuttle bus transfers and other activities throughout the region. Contact our Group Services Manager to discuss what we can do to make your day extra special.





WINGS & WHALES

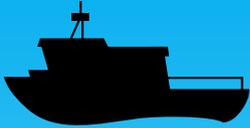


Departs from and returns to the downtown Vancouver seaplane terminal.

A beautiful 45 minute aerial tour brings you deep into Desolation Sound where you will be met by one of our boats. For the afternoon you'll be witness to a unique and breathtaking, private whale and wildlife tour. We'll stop at a nearby beach for a brief hike and catered lunch, before meeting the floatplane for your scenic return flight to Vancouver.



THE **BIG ANIMAL** ENCOUNTERS **FLEET**



PACIFIC SEEKER

Our flagship vessel was built to maximize comfort and handle the local waters. Our heated 12 passenger cabin is well equipped with the latest in safety and communications gear and is well appointed with a full sized marine washroom, coffee & snack station, and plenty of storage room for personal bags. The spacious deck ensures that every passenger has unobstructed viewing.



PACIFIC ATA'TUDE

This 12 passenger aluminum coastal cruiser was built locally and has with the latest in safety and communications gear. She is equipped with a heated cabin, marine toilet, and the large viewing deck ensures that each passenger gets that perfect photo!



FAST FORWARD

A former Coast Guard rescue vessel, this 24 foot (7m) rigid hull Zodiac is equipped with 300 horse power engines. This vessel is specifically built for speed and stability, to safely and comfortably navigate the coastal waters of BC. Each bench seat is comfortably padded with plenty of leg room for passengers of all sizes.



INLET EXPLORER

A former Police patrol vessel this 24 foot (7m) rigid hull Zodiac is equipped with 300 horse power engines. This fun and stable vessel is ideal for getting close to nature as we explore the current swept inlets. Each bench seat is comfortably padded with plenty of leg room for passengers of all sizes.

CAMPBELL RIVER'S FINEST FLEET!

Small, intimate, immersive experiences
Maximum 12 passenger per vessel



All of our vessels are owned and operated by us on a year-round basis. All are equipped with the latest in navigation and safety equipment, and all crew are Transport Canada Certified.





EXPLORE OUR ISLAND

Central Vancouver Island has many tourism opportunities. We can arrange many additional tour offerings with our local partners:

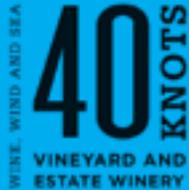
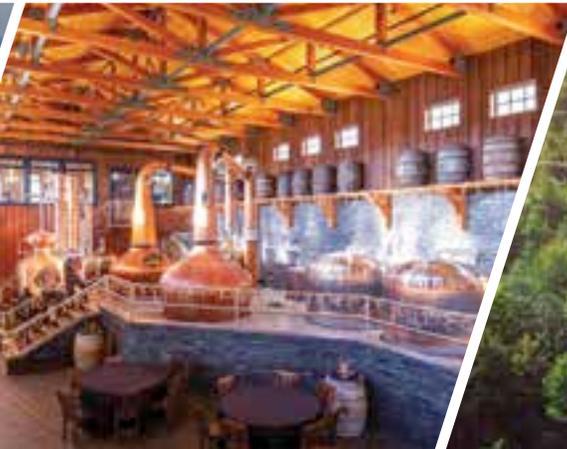


Photo: Marc Bagechtold





BIG ANIMAL MOM ENCOUNTERS



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tripadvisor
★★★★★

Member of:

Campbell River Association of Tour Operators

Partners with:

**Pacific Whale Watching Association
Homalco First Nations**

Authorized whale watching company:
Transport Canada

