



MEDIA

Frequently Asked Questions

A few words on Klahoose Wilderness Resort (KWR) and its unique location.

Klahoose Wilderness Resort (KWR) is an authentic eco-lodge and British Columbia's newest Indigenous cultural experience set to open in May 2021. The off-the-grid resort is located in the pristine and deep waters of the Homfray Channel in Desolation Sound, one of the richest ecosystems and wildlife on the planet.

KWR is the only resort in Desolation Sound and is owned and operated by First Nation. It is an idyllic playground for the pandemic travellers who long to explore new horizons in a safe natural environment far from worries, crowds, and chaos.

Desolation Sound is renowned as a marine paradise for its designated Desolation Sound Marine Park. The 6,350+ acres of shoreline and water is the largest Marine Park in BC, in addition to being the only major park of any kind on the Pacific mainland coast of Canada.

Klahoose Wilderness Resort is in Desolation Sound, North of the Marine Park, away from boaters, on the shore of the calm waters of Homfray Channel and nearby Toba Inlet. The pristine territory is surrounded by vistas of towering peaks of the Coastal Mountains range, including the iconic Mount Denman (1920 m, 6299 ft straight up from the sea), and lush Rainforest, mystic waterfalls and deep Inlets.

KWR is remote and yet easily accessible from Vancouver and other urban centres. It offers a perfect balance of luxury and authenticity with a diverse programming of Indigenous cultural experiences, eco-adventures, wildlife and grizzly bear viewing excursions, as well as exquisite lodging, dining and friendly local hosts.

Who are the Klahoose First Nation and where is their territories?



The Klahoose First Nation traditional territories span from Toba Inlet in Desolation Sound and Northern islands of the Strait of Georgia on coastal British Columbia. The Klahoose territories are abundant in resources, both on land and in the waters that surround them. This abundance helped sustain their ancestors who carefully managed fish and wildlife to ensure future generations would have access to these vital resources.

Toba Inlet, Yekwamen (yɛkʷamən) has been the home of the Klahoose people for millennia. This is one of the principal inlets on the BC coast. Toba Inlet is relatively short in comparison to other major coastal inlets with an average width of 2.5 km and a length of only about 35 km. At the mouth of the inlet is the Toba River and the remote Toba Valley. The inlet is flanked by towering glacier peaks and waterfalls and is home to one of the highest concentrations of grizzly bears in the world. The Klahoose have been operating grizzly bear viewing tours in the Inlet since 2016. The operator is called, Klahoose Coast Adventures.

The Klahoose's primary village site is in Squirrel Cove or commonly known as Klahoose, on the East Shore of Cortes Island, a 30-minute boat ride from the Klahoose Wilderness Resort. The Cove is home to approximately seventy-five full-time residents who live and work on Cortes Island and in the surrounding areas. The remaining three hundred and nine members reside off-reserve in coastal communities in the lower mainland and in Washington State. In total the Nation is comprised of 10 Reserves allocated in the early 1800s by Indian Agents and surveyors.

In 2016, the Klahoose band membership elected Chief Kevin Peacey, along with Councillors and introduced a new era of governance and transparency that quickly established language and culture, job creation, education and treaty as the strategic priorities for the term. Also included in their broad-stroke objectives for Council was the restructuring of Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation (QXMC), the enhancement of community economic initiatives in tourism and hospitality, and member engagement in the treaty process.

Is Klahoose Wilderness Resort associated with the old Homfray Lodge?



No, the Klahoose First Nation's Economic Development Corporation, Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation (QXMC) purchased Homfray Lodge in November 2020 and is now fully owned and operated as Klahoose Wilderness Resort.

What is the role of Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation (QMXC)?

QMXC's role is to support the Klahoose Nation and engage in business ventures that encourage Klahoose's self-reliance and economic independence. In the last decade, QXMC has invested in partnerships and resource management in the hydroelectricity and forestry sectors. Since the arrival of new management 18 months ago, QXMC has established innovation and set a new economic vision with significant investment in aquaculture and eco-tourism

What type of lodging and dining experience is offered at KWR?

The intimate 6,100-square foot cedar timber structure can accommodate 14 to 26 guests in double occupancy. It offers two types of lodging options, Lodge Rooms and Cabins.

There are four spacious Lodge Rooms located in the main Lodge with two of these rooms featuring a private balcony overlooking Homfray Channel. All rooms offer ocean views. These units can sleep two guests and feature a queen or double bed and a private washroom. One of the Lodge Rooms is available with a double bed and a separate room with bunks, which is suitable for up to two small children.

There are also three cozy private Cabins that are located within walking distance from the main Lodge. Two, two-bedroom Cabins and one, one-bedroom Cabin are available for families or couples. Each Cabin features a large sitting area, balcony with ocean views and a private bedroom. The two-bedroom Cabins sleep up to 6 guests and feature a bedroom with a queen bed plus an open loft with twin beds.

The dining area is located in the main Lodge and can accommodate a maximum of 26 guests in small groups of 2 to 6 people seating. The view over the Homfray Channel



adds to the experience. *Seating plan is being revised on a regular basis according to the Provincial Covid-19 security measures.

The culinary experience is outstanding. Meals are prepared with regionally sourced ingredients from coastal towns and farms on the Sunshine Coast, Cortes Island and Vancouver Island.

The freshness of the seafood is unbeatable. Local fish and shellfish dishes (salmon (fresh and smoked), halibut, are featured on the menu. The Chef knows how to please the guest's pallet with her delicious traditional seafood stew and wild duck dishes, amongst other delicacies.

Guests cannot resist the daily freshly baked goods. Traditional bannock bread and decadent desserts made with local huckleberries, blackberries and blue berries also featured on the menu.

A nice selection of BC wine, organic craft beer from local micro-breweries and regionally made spirits feature on the wine and cocktail list.

KWR caters to guests with special dietary requirements.

How to get to Klahoose Wilderness Resort from Vancouver?

The journey leading to Klahoose Wilderness Resort is magnificent and very much part of the wilderness experience offered by the Klahoose. There are various transportation options to get to the resort, by car, scheduled flight, seaplane and helicopter.

Klahoose Wilderness Resort is only accessible by boat. The Klahoose Nation operates a 30-minute boat transfer from the coastal town of Lund, located 120 km from Vancouver. Lund is located at "Mile O" of Highway 101 at the North End of Pacific Coastal Route on BC's Sunshine Coast.



By Air: Pacific Coastal Airlines operates a 35-minutes scheduled flight from Vancouver South Terminal to Powell River. *Klahoose Wilderness Resort offers a complimentary airport pick-up and land transfer to Lund.

By Car via BC Ferries: BC Ferries operates scheduled sailings from Horseshoe Bay (West Vancouver) to Langdale (Gibson, on the Sunshine Coast). The ferry crossing is 35-minutes.

From Gibson, travellers have to drive on the scenic 101 Highway, along the Sechelt Peninsula to Earls Cove. From there take the toll-free ferry to Saltery Bay. Then travel north on Highway 101, through the City of Powell River, until they reach Lund.

Travel time to Lund is between 5 or 6 hrs, with limited stops.

*The Sunshine Coast is BC's most picturesque coastal region with its small towns, marinas and breath-taking bays and coastal vistas. We recommend travellers to stop along the way, and overnight if they have sufficient time.

How to get to Lund from Vancouver Island? BC Ferries operates scheduled sailings from Vancouver Island - Comox (Little River) to Powell River (Westview). From there, guests can drive to Lund.

By Seaplane: Several companies operate charter flights direct to Resorts dock including Harbour Air Seaplanes, Seair and from Campbell River Corilair

49 North Helicopters runs helicopter charter, from Campbell River, Vancouver Island and Lund on the Sunshine Coast to the Resort

Corilair runs both charter flights direct to the Resort's dock or join the Historic Mail Flight, with a path, with stops through the Discovery Islands to Desolation Sound and finally the Resort.

Is Klahoose Wilderness Resort operate year-round and can private group buy-out the resort?



KWR operational season is from May until October. The 2021 season is scheduled to start, May 13th and end October 10, 2021. Stays outside these dates are available on request.

The resort is an ideal location for private gatherings. It's most suitable for multi-generational families and small group traveling with their "bubble". The maximum capacity the lodge can accommodate is 26 guests when sharing all the rooms.

The setting is favourable for family reunion, wedding, special anniversary, girls-getaway, private wellness retreats or small corporate gathering.

What is the average rate and what does it include?

There are three pricing seasons. The 2021 spring season will operate from May 13th to June 16th. It offers the best value. The summer season is July 17th to August 25th and the summer peak /Grizzly Bear viewing season from August 26th to October 10th, 2021.

KWR operates two all-inclusive packages: 3-night/4-days and 4-nights/5-days.

Price starts at \$2,395 for a 3-night/ 4-day package in double occupancy, in either a spacious Lodge Room or a cozy Cabin. Included in the price; accommodation, airport pick in Powell River, boat transfer to KWR, all-meals, various soft adventures and excursions, including Grizzly Bears viewing in season (August to October). See complete activities list below. In short, ocean swimming, unlimited kayak and SUP use, hikes, various cultural activities on-site, and excursions, such as a cultural and marine wildlife boat excursion to Squirrel Cove on Cortes Island. Other exclusive excursions such as fishing charters and helicopter tours and adventures are not included in these packages.

What is the clientele at Klahoose Wilderness Resort?

KWR is for the modern adventurer searching for a connection with nature in an intimate and safe setting, away from crowds and urban chaos. It's for moderately active people that care for the environment and want to witness rich wildlife in natural habitat and discover First Nation's hospitality.



The resort is for couples, families, small group of friends, nature and wildlife enthusiast, photographers, water sports enthusiasts, travellers interested in Indigenous culture or that simply want to reconnect with themselves and explore a new region close or far from home.

What are the excursions and activities offered at the resort?

There is a wide diversity of cultural and soft adventure activities available for guests of all ages, fitness levels and interests. Guests can explore the Klahoose Territory from the water, land and air.

Grizzly Bear viewing in Toba Inlet with the Klahoose Coastal Adventures, is by far the most popular excursion from mid-August to mid-October. In summer 2021 the season will operate from August 20th to October 7th. Children must be 12 and older.

Klahoose Nation guides provide a safe and enriching experience for guests. Toba Inlet is the closest grizzly bear viewing to Vancouver, while also being one of the most remote and exclusive experiences. Six bear viewing platforms can accommodate a maximum of 12 guests and provide an authentic and intimate experience while having a minimal impact for the bears. KWR's guests can enjoy one of nature's greatest gifts, seeing the almighty Toba Inlet Grizzly Bears gorging on the returning salmon. The return of the salmon and watching these wild grizzly bears is an annual cycle that has taken place for a millennium and very few people have the chance to witness.

Water and land-based activities: KWR's infamous large dock is the perfect hub for water lovers. It's also an idyllic place for a complimentary yoga session or simply stargaze, sit back, relax and take in the beauty of the surroundings, from sunrise to sunset. In the summer months, the water temperature can exceed 75F (22 C) which is pleasantly surprising for the guests that enjoy ocean swimming. There is nothing like a day or night swim to ignite the senses!

Guests have unlimited access to sea-kayaks and stand-up paddleboards. They also have a nice selection of activities to choose from. Self-guided or solo excursions are available and range from sea-kayaking, wildlife viewing, nature photography excursion,



interpretive Rainforest hiking, bird watching, oyster picking, crab fishing and on occasion traditional clam digging.

There are two exclusive adventures available, but they are not included in these packages: fishing excursion and Heli-adventures for sightseeing or glacier landings.

*Charters are customized to guests' interests and guided by weather.

What kind of Indigenous programming is offered?

KWR operates a boat excursion with cultural visit to Squirrel Cove, Cortes Island.

Upon arrival at the resort guests are greeted with a warm traditional Klahoose welcome with traditional drumming and a welcome song. Other cultural experiences such as, basket weaving, cooking demonstration, story telling evening, lecture, traditional dancing and drumming will take place throughout the season at the resort. Coast Salish art and local artist exhibits will be displayed in the main Lodge, and available to purchase at the gift shop.

Can boaters moor at Klahoose Wilderness Resort's dock?

No, the dock is strictly for KWR's guests.

Are day visitors welcome at the resort?

No, unannounced day visitors aren't allowed at the resort. Guest's privacy and safety is KWR'S priority.

How is the Klahoose Nation protecting the environment and wildlife?

Klahoose Wilderness Resort operates off-the-grid, from a water wheel located behind the main Lodge. It produces its power and supplies excess power across the territory.

The Klahoose Nation supports sustainable forestry, aquaculture, and tourism portfolio educates visitors from around the world on sustainable practices and cultural heritage on their territory.



Their contribution is invested in the preservation, conservation, and protection of the ocean, wilderness, marine, and terrestrial life. It's with partnering with various associations, including the Commercial Bear Viewing Association which develops industry standards, uniform guide training, and conduct research on the Grizzly bear habitat and pristine marine life and wildlife.

The Klahoose also contributes to the local economy by supporting regional coastal communities by purchasing locally sourced food, hiring and training local and Indigenous youth and supporting in various ways local artisans.

Guests who stay at KWR naturally support these great initiatives while etching memories through their unique adventures. This collective effort, a connection to place, its people, and time-gathered wisdom come together at Klahoose Wilderness Resort within the Klahoose Nation to cast lifelong memories while providing a positive impact for us all.

What kind of wildlife can be seen in Desolation Sound and Toba Inlet?

Marine mammals:

Seals and Sea Lions -Spring or fall is when you are most likely to see Sea Lions. In the summer they seem to normally head south to California. Sea Lions have a distinctive honking noise. They can be seen resting on rocks or resting in the water with their flippers in the air (to reduce heat loss). Huge colonies of seals gather near the cliffs on the western shore of Kinghorn Island and at Major Rock north of Lund.

Porpoises and Dolphins -There are 2 types of common porpoise in Desolation Sound, the harbour porpoise and the Dall's porpoise (with a white dash on the dorsal fin). Often a pod will have a dozen porpoises. Dolphins are larger than porpoises and have white or grey markings on their undersides and at the tip of their dorsal fin. They love to play in the waves of boats.

Whales: Humpbacks and Orcas (killer whales). All can be spotted in Desolation Sound but there are now guarantees guests will see them but it highly possible. They can be spotted or heard from the KWR's dock, and seen during a boat transfer, wildlife



viewing excursion or while sea-kayaking. Witnessing Orcas is a feeling no one ever forgets.

Birds of Prey, and shore birds:

Bald Eagles. Desolation Sound has a healthy population of Bald eagles. You can recognize them by their white head feathers and their enormous nests. Their nests are built year on year as they return to the same location by the sea where they can feed on fish.

Great Blue Herons. One of the most distinctive-looking birds sighted all over Desolation Sound and the BC coast is the noble-looking great blue heron. While they are becoming increasingly vulnerable across British Columbia, they are commonly seen standing silently or into shallow water.

Ospreys, Cormorants, Kingfishers, Oyster Catchers and Mergensers Ducks can also be seen.

Land mammals:

Desolation Sound and its Inlets hold a healthy population of Grizzly and black bears. River otters, as well as Minks, are common but hard to spot. Cougars and wolves are present in the forests of the Sound but they too are rare to spot.

Grizzly Bears may be seen in Spring feeding on the shoreline. While the late summer annual salmon run from mid-August to October brings the salmon to the local rivers, including the Klite River in Toba Inlet, where grizzly bear viewing tours are operated.