Visitor’s Information

VILLAGE OF ALERT BAY
HOME OF THE KILLER WHALE

Alert Bay
Index

Description Page 3
How to get to Alert Bay Page 3
Visitor Attractions Page 3-5
Stores and Gift Shops Page 5-6
Restaurants Page 6
Accommodations Page 6-9
Services Page 9-10
Churches Page 10
Charters Page 11
Things to do Page 11
BC Ferry Schedule Page 12
Alert Bay Events Calendar Page 13
Historic Background Page 14-15
Map Page 16

Emergency Numbers

Fire 911
Police (non emergency 974-5544) 911
Ambulance 911
Poison Control (250) 974-5585
Alert Bay like a small jewel lies cradled in the arms of Cormorant Island. This crescent shaped island is situated just off the Northeast coast of Vancouver Island and is approximately 180 miles by water from the City of Vancouver. Both Alert Bay and Cormorant Island were named after two British war ships H.M.S. Alert and H.M.S. Cormorant while they were engaged in surveying the coastal waters of British Columbia between the years of 1846 and 1861. The Captains of those two ships were Captain Malcolm (Malcolm Island) and Captain Pearse (Pearse Islands).

In 1870, a small saltery was established in Alert Bay to preserve salmon and with the introduction of a new Church Mission, the ÓNámgis were persuaded to move to Alert Bay to provide the necessary work force for the saltery and later the cannery, thus, establishing the basis of the present-day community.

Alert Bay has a population of approximately 1,500 and is comprised of the Village of Alert Bay, ÓNámgis First Nation, Whe-la-la-u Area Council and Regional District of Mount Waddington. Cormorant Island is 3 miles long and a half mile wide. The average rainfall is 60 inches per year and the temperature averages 75 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer and 35 in winter.

From humble beginnings, Alert Bay has since become an important centre of commerce and services while still retaining its quaint fishing village atmosphere and unique lifestyle. This rare combination of embracing the past while planning for the future has enabled Alert Bay to make major contributions to the development of the British Columbia coast. Visitors from around the world come to enjoy the Historic First Nation culture, friendly community, quite magnificent scenery and the superb fishing. Within easy reach of Alert Bay are hundreds of lakes and miles of tranquil inlets awaiting the vacationers whether arriving by airplane or by boat.

**How to get to Alert Bay, BC**

Drive North on Hwy 1 from Victoria turns into Hwy 19 at Nanaimo passing Parksville, Courtenay, Campbell River and Sayward to Port McNeill - a scenic drive on a modern highway that takes about 4 hours from Nanaimo to Port McNeill. From Port McNeill, there is BC Ferries running to Alert Bay and Sointula continuously form 8:40 AM-9:30 PM daily.

By bus  
Scheduled bus services depart daily from all points on Vancouver Island to Port McNeill where connection is made by ferry to Alert Bay.

By air  
Scheduled air flights depart daily from Vancouver to Port Hardy and a limousine service is available to Port McNeill where connection is made by ferry to Alert Bay.

**Visitor Attractions**

| Alert Bay Visitor Centre | offers a large selection of brochures, maps, etc |
| 118 Fir Street | public washroom |
| Bag Service 2800 | Art Gallery features the original collection of water colours by Chris Nancarrow, depicting a year in the daily life on Fir and Front Streets. |
| Alert Bay, BC | January-June, Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, closed for lunch 1:00 PM-2:00 PM unless otherwise posted |
| (250) 974-5024 | January-June, Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, closed for lunch 1:00 PM-2:00 PM unless otherwise posted |
| Fax: (250) 974-5026 | Closed stat holidays |
| info@alertbay.ca | July-August, Daily 9:00 AM-5:00 PM |
| http://www.alertbay.ca | September-December, Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM closed for lunch 1:00 PM-2:00 PM unless otherwise posted |
|  | Closed stat holidays |
**Visitor Attractions**

_Ônmîsta Cultural Centre_  
Box 253  
Alert Bay, BC  
V0N 1A0  
(250) 974-5403  
Fax: (250) 974-5499  
info@umista.ca  
http://www.umista.org

The ceremonial regalia, including coppers, masks, rattles and whistles, were confiscated in 1922 and distributed amongst museums and private collections throughout North America. Returned in 1980, much of the repatriated collection is now on display at the Cultural Centre. Also featured are travelling exhibits, and a collection of videos dealing with Potlatch prohibition and cultural survival. The gift shop boasts a wide variety of outstanding works by Kwakwâwakw artists, many of whom are world renowned. Cultural Tours can be pre-arranged for guided tours of the Potlatch Collection, Island Walking Tours Special Dance Performances, Seafood Feasts and specially designed tours. Please call for details of these special tours and participate minimums apply.

**Winter Hours September to June**  
Tuesday to Saturday  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Summer Hours: July-August, Daily**  
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

_Alert Bay Library-Museum_  
Box 440  
Alert Bay, BC  
V0N 1A0  
(250) 974-5721  
Fax: (250) 974-5026  
abplb@island.net  
http://alertbay.bc.libraries.coop/

Featured at this Museum are Kwakwâwakw and other artifacts and an archival collection of over 9,000 photographs of Alert Bay, surrounding area and people dating back as far as the 1880s. Public internet access available.

**Hours:**  
Monday, Friday and Saturday,  
1:00 PM-4:00 PM  
Wednesday ONLY  
1:00 PM -5:00 PM

_Tsasala Cultural Group_  
Traditional Dance Performance  
Andrea Cranmer  
Phone: (250) 974-5475  
AndreaCranmer@hotmail.com  
http://www.tsasalaculturalgroup.com/

Performance is approximately 1 Hour. Cost: $20.00 per adult and $10.00 per child under 12 years. Thursdays-Saturdays, 1:15 PM, (July-August 3rd week) in our Big House. This is the only time you will ever get to see the inside of our Big House as it is closed to public viewing. There have been special performances for groups of 25 or more - call to make arrangements.

_Traditional Big House_  
Completed in May 1966, the Big House is modeled on the traditional residences of the Kwakwâwakw. This building is primarily used for Potlatches. The house was enlarged and repainted in 1987, at which time ÒNamgis artist Doug Cranmer designed the extended house front. The original building burnt down August 1997. The Big House re-opened May 28, 1999.

_World’s Tallest Totem Pole_  
173 ft. carved by six Kwakwâwakw. This pole represents a carved history of some of the Kwakwâwakw. The figures are acquired through marriage. The figures represented are the Sun man- Gushimukw, Kulus (Thunderbirds cousin) Kwagu’l Whale- Gwa’ala-Na’kwaxda’xw, Old Man- Ėawitsis, Wolf- Dzawada’enux , Thunderbird-ÔNamgis, Dzunu’kwa, Sisíyutíl- Mamalilikala, Bear holding a Salmon, Raven, and a Dzunu’kwa holding a copper. During a Nimpkish Wind November 2007 the top of the Totem Pole fell to the ground. No charge to see. Stop by Alert Bay Visitor Centre for Totem Poles Brochure

_O’Namgis Burial Grounds_  
This cemetery is the site of numerous memorial and other totem poles created by some of the best carvers in the area. Visit the Alert Bay Visitor Centre and ask for the Totem Poles brochure, _No Trespassing in the Cemetery_
**Visitor Attractions**

**Alert Bay Ecological Park**
The Park is a small flooded forest that serves as a home to ravens, eagles and migratory birds, located near the picnic area and campground. It is about a 25-minute walk through three trails and a boardwalk. Stop at the Alert Bay Visitor Centre for brochure on the Ecological Park.

**Anglican Church**
Was built in 1892, of BC cedar that was milled here in our small saw mill. There are several stained-glass windows revealing a unique blend of Native and European cultures.

**Stores and Giftshops**

**Alert Bay Artloft Gallery**
60 Fir Street
Beth Dunlop
(250) 974-2787
alertbayartists@gmail.com
http://www.alertbayartists.com
Showcasing Alert Bay Artists. Alert Bay Artists Society hosts the Annual Alert Bay Artfest during Bay Days weekend. Holds numerous community driven workshops and shows which change monthly. Cards, prints, jewelry, small carvings and other goodies for sale.

February to June: Saturdays and Sundays 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM. July-August: Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11:00 PM-3:00 PM. September to December: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 12:00 PM-3:00 PM. **January Closed**

**Alert Bay Drugs**
90 Fir Street
Paul Fletcher
(250) 974-5712
Monday-Friday, 9:30 AM-6:00 PM, Saturday, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM
Lotto, post cards, jewelry, stationary, gift items, toys, etc.

**24 Hour ATM exterior of building.**

**Alert Bay Visitor Centre**
118 Fir Street
Norine Smith
(250) 974-5024
Fax: (250) 974-5026
info@alertbay.ca
http://www.alertbay.ca

January-June, Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Closed
lunch from 1:00 PM-2:00 PM, unless otherwise posted and closed stat holidays

July-August, Daily, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

September-December Mondays to Fridays 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Closed
lunch from 1:00 PM-2:00 PM unless otherwise posted and closed stat holidays

Prints, posters, note cards, pins, BC Road map, etc.

**Alert Bay Library-Museum**
116 Fir Street
Joyce Wilby, Steven Wong
(250) 974-5721
abplb@island.net
http://alertbay.bc.libraries.coop/

Monday, Friday and Saturday, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
Wednesday ONLY 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
Post cards, small carvings, books, etc.

**Culture Shock Interactive Gallery**
010 A Front Street
Barb Cranmer, Donna Cranmer and Andrea Cranmer
(250) 974-2484

Summer: July 1 to Labour Day in September Daily 9:30 AM-6:00 PM
Winter: September to June
Tuesday to Saturday
12:00 AM-5:00 PM
info@cultureshockgallery.ca
http://www.cultureshockgallery.ca

Experience Ńamgis Roots. An interactive Gallery, share, create, connect, soul. Two-minute walk from the ferry.

Package times: 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

#1 Cedar Weaving: Hands on experience making your own Cedar Bracelet with Donna Cranmer. $75.00 per person minimum of 6 people

#2 Traditional Salmon Barbeque: Put your own individual piece of wild Sockeye salmon on cedar barbeque sticks $75.00 per person, minimum of 6 people.

#3 Nusa ŃStory Telling悭 Hear the stories as she heard it from her Grandmother. Ada-Vera Newman will share history, legends which have been passed down through many generations. $60.00 per person, minimum of 6 people

https://www.facebook.com/Culture-Shock-Interactive-Gallery-237303022960790/?ref=ts
Stores and Giftshops

Shop Rite Stores and Rona
99 Fir Street
(250) 974-2777

Shop Rite: Monday-Saturday, 9:00 AM-7:00 PM, Sunday, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
Rona: Monday-Saturday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sunday CLOSED
Grocery, deli, Rona, Fishing Licenses can be purchased for a small fee at (upstairs in Shop Rite Stores). Rona also sells fishing tackle.

U'mista Cultural Centre
Sarah Holland
(250) 974-5403
Fax: (250) 974-5499
info@umista.ca

Summer: July 1 to Labour Day (September) Daily 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Winter: September to June Tuesdays to Saturdays 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
First Nation Art Gallery: masks, jewelry, clothes, jewelry boxes, first nation books, drums, small carvings, etc

Restaurants

Bayside Grill
(250) 974-3101
Daily
8:00 AM-8:00 PM

Shop Rite Deli
(250) 974-2777
Monday to Saturday 9:00 AM-7:00 PM
Sunday 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

Passn Thyme Inn
(250) 974-2670
Tuesday to Saturday-11:00 AM-8:00 PM

Cook Shack
(250) 974-0004
Wednesday to Saturday 11:30 AM to 8:00 PM
Sunday and Tuesday 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Accommodations

Alert Bay Accommodations
Box 483
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
Phone: (250) 974-2226
kindheartmt@gmail.com
http://www.alertbayaccommodations.com

Alert Bay Cabins
390 Poplar Road
Box 470
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
(250) 974-5457
Fax: (250) 974-2275
1-877-97 4-5457
alertbaycabins@gmail.com
http://www.alertbaycabins.net

On the Beach 66 Fir Street, a unique suite over the ocean' setting featuring a large deck and garden area. An open plan suite with two queen beds + hide-a-bed Rates: $140.00 - $190.00
Rate: $135.00 to deluxe $175.00 per night
All Single cabins and Double bedroom cabins have kitchens.
Standard cabins are pet friendly additional $20.00 per night.
Ask about the upgrades and the muffins!
Accommodations

14 fully serviced sites, 6 other sites services include water, sewer and electricity rates include access to shower house. rates are $25.00 per night (GST included) for campers and RV Ô (includes all services). rates are $15.00 per (GST included) night for tenters, coin shower available. Serviced sites monthly rate $450.00 pay in advance requires an application process, inquire at the Village of Alert Bay Office Monday to Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Phone: (250) 974-5213. Campground is near Ecological Park, picnic area and nature trails. Shower takes Loonies: one last 3 minutes. Seasonal: April to September http://www.alertbay.ca

Alert Bay Campground
14 fully serviced sites, 6 other sites services include water, sewer and electricity rates include access to shower house. rates are $25.00 per night (GST included) for campers and RV Ô (includes all services). rates are $15.00 per (GST included) night for tenters, coin shower available. Serviced sites monthly rate $450.00 pay in advance requires an application process, inquire at the Village of Alert Bay Office Monday to Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Phone: (250) 974-5213. Campground is near Ecological Park, picnic area and nature trails. Shower takes Loonies: one last 3 minutes. Seasonal: April to September http://www.alertbay.ca

Alert Bay Lodge
549 Fir Street
Alert Bay, BC
(250) 974-2410 or 1-800-255-5057
tours@midnightsuntravel.com

Phone for Availability. Rate: $130.00-$140.00 per night. Includes Breakfast Situated on one wooded acre and a ten minute walk from the Village, you will find our inn is more than a place to stay. Relax in our comfortable common room and take in panoramic views of Johnstone Strait and the Vancouver Island Mountain Range. Trade stories with fellow travellers, enjoy our genuine hospitality Destination BC approved. At Alert Bay Lodge, the coffee is always on! http://www.alertbaylodge.com

Rate: $55.00-$125.00 per night
all rooms have cable TV
all rooms have showers
Pub open daily
24 H ATM exterior of building

Janet Boonâs Guest House
667 Fir Street
Box 229
Alert Bay, BC
(250) 974-5947
janetboon25@gmail.com

Whole house Rate:
$200.00 per night
$1,100.00 per week
rates include tax

http://www.alertbayvacationrental.com/

Nimpkish Hotel
318 Fir Street
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
Phone: 1-888-503-8610
info@thenimpkishhotel.com

http://www.thenimpkishhotel.com

Orca Inn
291 Fir Street
Box 69
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
(250) 667-6260
killerwhaleinn@gmail.com

$85.00 per night (based on single $8.00 per extra person) includes continental breakfast (coffee/tea toast, cereal, eggs some fruit)

$135.00 per night self-contained (furnished) suite. 3 bedrooms, full kitchen (does not include breakfast)

https://www.facebook.com/TheOrcaInn/

Passagemaker 1
20 Fir Street
Box 541
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
(778) 421-0113
passagemaker1@hotmail.com

$165 per night 2 guests, $25 per extra person. Maximum 6
Not suitable for children under 12 or for those with mobility issues. Boat is docked at Alert Bay Boat Harbour.
Accommodations

Passn Thyme Inn
4 Maple Road
Box 376
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
(250) 974-2670
passnthyme@gmail.com

Sea Glass Cabin
26 Birch Road
Box 35
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
Phone: (250) 949-0327
info@seaglasscabin.com

Sea Glass Suite
26 Birch Road
Box 35
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
Phone: (250) 949-0327
info@seaglasssuite.com

Stay in the Bay
71B Orca Way
Alert Bay, BC
(250) 974-8456
stayinthebay@gmail.com

The Artist Cottage
661 Fir Street
Box 229
Alert Bay
V0N 1A0
(250) 974 5947
janetboon25@gmail.com

The Old Customs House
119 Fir Street
Box 8
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
(250) 974-5869

The Seine Boat Inn
60 Fir Street
Box 252
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
1- 877-334-9465
seinboatin@gmail.com

$125.00-$145.00 per night, double occupancy. $15.00 per extra person per night
includes breakfast. Sleeps up to 4 people, both have private bathrooms

Ocean View. Hot Tub. Private


Spacious one bedroom apartment; fully furnished Two bedroom apartment with
office. Bright southern exposure with water view. Well equipped kitchen, near
ecological park and trails, cable TV, wireless Internet, Laundry Facilities
available. Daily, weekly, monthly rates

Whole House $120.00-$175.00

$125.00, $750.00, $2,250.00 Daily, weekly and monthly rate, based on Double
occupancy, $25.00 per extra person per night. Pets welcome at $25.00 fee. Enjoy
your stay in this quaint, fully equipped two bed room suite overlooking beautiful
Johnstone Straits.

$125.00-$210.00 per night, Queen size beds, satellite TV, free WIFI, Water
front, Outside Deck, Kitchen Units, middle of Downtown, close to BC Ferry
Rustic Seaside Charm and Comfort

http://www.passnthyme.com/
http://seaglasscabin.com
http://seaglasssuite.com
http://www.stayinalertbay.com/
http://www.alertbayvacationrental.com
http://www.staycustomshouse.com/
http://www.seineboatinn.com
S e r v i c e s
Village of Alert Bay
Municipal Hall
Property taxes and utilities, Photocopying and fax services
Village Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

Lyle McNish
CAO
Village Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays
Email: cao@alertbay.ca

Connie Larson
Deputy CAO
Village Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays
Email: deputy@alertbay.ca

ICBC: Autoplan, Driver Licensing, BCID, BC Service Card
ICBC Hours: 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM Open Monday to Friday
Patricia Lawson-ICBC Lead
Email: autoplndl@alertbay.ca

S e r v i c e s
Village of Alert Bay
Public Works
Public Works and after hour emergencies

Dave Leslie
Public Works Foreman
foreman@alertbay.ca
(250) 974-7091

Lynne Skaza
Public Works
(250) 974-6203
Fax: (250) 974-5470

Vancity
Tuesday to Wednesday 10:00 AM-3:30 PM
Friday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
24 H ATM

Cormorant Island Community
4 beds, Laboratory and X-ray Services, 10 bed multi-level care unit.
Health Centre (Hospital) (250) 974-5585

Dr. Dan Cutfeet
48 School Road (250) 974-5520
Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Closed for Lunch 12 PM to 1 PM

Dr. Franklin Clarke
48 School Road (250) 974-5520
Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Closed for Lunch 12 PM to 1 PM

Dr. John Fitzgerald
74 Fir Street (250) 974-3106
Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Closed for Lunch 12 PM to 1 PM

Namgis Dental Clinic
(250) 974-5205
Monday to Thursday 8:30 AM to 5:15 PM, Closed for Lunch 12 PM to 1 PM

Alert Bay Drugstore
(250) 974-5712
Pharmacy, Medicines, Medical Equipment, Gift-ware, Greeting cards, Phone cards, Tobacco, Lottery, Stationary and Jewelry. Monday-Friday, 9:30 AM-6:00 PM, Saturday, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM. 24 H ATM exterior of building

IšKil Therapy
Christina Cook
22 Front Street
(250) 974-81282
hamumu52@gmail.com
Offering Traditional Chinese Medicine based modalities of bodywork. Shiatsu or Reiki $50.00 per hour. Hot Stone or Swedish $60.00 per hour. Also, Acuroltherapy and Iridology. IšKil (Healing to make one feel good)

Cormorant Island Hospital
Auxiliary Thrift Shop
5 Birch Road
Tuesday 10 AM-12 PM, Saturday 1PM-3 PM 2000 Square ft of items. Large selection of clothes, books, electronics, tapes, cds, sporting goods & much more. Located in the Blueline Building at corner of Fir Street & Birch Road.

Namgis Gas Station
33 School Road
(250) 974-5556 ext 3113
Open Daily 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
Cash, Debit, MasterCard and Visa accepted

Liquor Store-Government
21 Maple Road
(250) 974-5450
Tuesday-Saturday, 10:30 AM-6:00 PM
Closed for lunch 1:00 PM-2:00 PM
Closed Statutory Holidays

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Services

Bayside Inn
(250) 974-5858
Cold Beer & Wine and Liquor Store
Daily, 11:00 AM-11:00 PM. 24 H ATM exterior of building

Municipal Dock
Stephen Bruce Sr-Manager
(250) 974-5727
boatharbour@alertbay.ca
Mainly used for loading and unloading

Boat Harbour
Stephen Bruce Sr-Manager
(250) 974-5727
boatharbour@alertbay.ca
http://www.alertbay.ca
Moorage facilities available

Free Boat Launch
Fir Street next to Municipal Dock and across from Harmony Repair

Aircraft landing strip
2,900 ft. paved runway

40 K Taxi and Charters
Monday-Saturday, 6:30 AM-1:00 AM
(250) 974-5525 or 974-5526
Sunday, 6:30 AM-12:00 AM
Charters available

Hair by Natasha Pittman
Tuesday to Saturday 12:00 PM-8:00 PM
(250) 974-8530
located as in "Bill's Place" 001 Front Street

Anglican Christ Church
Sunday Service 10:00 AM
(250) 974-5844

Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church
Mass held the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM
(250) 974-5426 or (250) 974-5371

House of Prayer
Andrew Speck
(250) 974-2677
Sunday Services 10:30 AM and 7:30 PM, Wednesday Service 7:30 PM,
Friday Service 7:30 PM

Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church
Rick & Poula Ivens
(250) 974-8585
Sunday Service 1:00 PM

Charters

Whale watching season is mid June-mid October

Sea Smoke Whale Watching
Box 483
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0
Phone: (250) 974-5225
1-800-668-6722
searca@cablerocket.com
http://www.seaorca.com
A true Eco-tour viewing killer (orcas), humpback and minke whales and numerous
other marine mammals including dolphins, porpoises, seals and sea lions; all while
touring through the protected waters of Johnstone Strait & the Broughton Archipelago
near Alert Bay and Alder Bay. Licensed skipper and deckhand and Transport Canada
approved Passenger Vessel with weatherproof clothing provided for comfort Daily
departures are from the Government Dock in Alert Bay and from the Alder Bay Resort
on Vancouver Island. Our 4-5 hr 'Sail with the Whales' tour offers exceptional service
& value and includes the serving of beverages along with fresh baked organic muffins
& our traditional Devonshire Tea. If you are looking for a unique and Eco-friendly
experience, join us, our carbon footprint is very small. There is no other whale
watching tour like it on the BC coast! Call for Rates

Things to do

Lloyd’s Lanes: Bowling alley (6 lanes) to book bowling alley
Edgar Colcol: 250-974-5448
-Treatment Centre Monday 1:00 PM-3:00 PM
- Drop in Bowling Friday 7:00 PM-9:00 PM
Alley Rental: Regular Bowling $30.00 per hour, Cosmic Bowling $40.00 per hour

D} 10
Things to do

Bicycling  Ride your bike from one end of the town to the other, stopping along the way for a picnic. For more of a challenge, ride your bike up and down some of our hills, or try out our new biking trails all over the island. Stop by the Alert Bay Visitor Centre to pick up a Trail Guide.

Skate Board Park  Designed by Spectrum Skate parks opened March 2013. The park houses a half pipe, stairs, quarter pipe rails, good for beginners & advanced, concrete, fenced in with an amazing view of Johnstone Strait. Located 185 Cedar Street, next to the Alert Bay Community Hall.

Walk  Walk around the island. It is only 8 miles around along the beach. Please be aware that the tide comes right up to the tree line, so be aware of the tide. Try our new hiking trails throughout the whole island. Stop by the Alert Bay Visitor Centre to pick up a Trail Guide.

Beachcomb  Take a walk on our beaches and look for lost ‘treasures’ washed ashore by Pacific currents. Look for eagle feathers, periwinkles and driftwood polished smooth by gentle ocean waves.

Tennis  Spend a few hours playing tennis at the tennis courts adjacent to the Community Hall.

Breakwater  For an interesting experience, take a walk down to the rock breakwater (boat harbour) View and watch the fishermen at work. Learn the difference between a seiner, gillnetter, troller and watch them mend their nets.

Picnic  Plan a picnic or outdoor barbecue in our picnic area located near the Alert Bay Campground and Ecological Park. Watch for soaring eagles, noisy ravens and dragonflies. There are other Picnic areas located along Fir and Front Streets.

Fishing  Off the Fishing Pier (near the Nimkish Hotel) or the Municipal Dock or other docks with a rod and reel. Fishing Licenses can be purchased at Rona (upstairs in Shop Rite Stores). Rona also sells fishing tackle.

Ferry Ride  Take a 70-minute scenic ferry ride to Sointula on Malcolm Island via Port McNeill and visit Sointula, originally established by Finnish settlers in hopes of creating a utopian community. Bring your bike and camera.
## BC Ferry Schedule
### Alert Bay-Sointula-Port McNeill
**Capacity 28 Vehicles 141 Passengers**

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<th>Alert Bay</th>
<th>Sointula</th>
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**Note:** *Sunday’s only*, Quadra Queen II will depart Alert Bay at 6:40 AM and go to Sointula and depart at 7:10 AM. For more Information call: 1-877-222-1949

**DC-Dangerous Cargo days** no passengers are permitted on that sailing

DC Runs that effect Alert Bay every other Tuesday:

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Alert Bay 2020 Events Calendar

62nd Annual June Sports
First Nation Soccer Tournament, Salmon Prince & Princess, Pageant, Parade, Crowning of Salmon Prince & Princess, Kids races etc. Namgis First Nation (250) 974-5556 https://www.facebook.com/namgisnation/

Tsasala Cultural Group
Traditional Native Dance Performance in our Big House. Admission:
$20 per Adult, $10 per child under 12 years. Special performances for group of 25 or more Andrea Cranmer (250) 974-5475 AndreaCranmer@hotmail.com http://www.tsasalaculturalgroup.com/

Cultural Experiences
Culture Shock Interactive Gallery. Come experience Namgis Roots: Cedar Bark weaving with Donna Cranmer, Thubukw Traditional BBQ Sockeye Salmon Nusa-Story Telling with Ada Vera Newman. Two times per day.
For pricing or to book call 250-974-2484

U’mista Cultural Centre Summer Programs
Phone: 250-974-5403 email: info@umista.ca

13th Annual Alert Bay Artfest
Showcasing Alert Bay Artists. Net loft, Government Dock
Beth Dunlop (250) 974-8147 alertbayartists@gmail.com http://www.alertbayartists.org

Bay Days
More information to come soon.
Natalie Hunt (250) 527-0135

Salmon Run
Sue Bell (250) 974-8456 info@salmonrun.ca http://www.salmonrun.ca/

12th Annual Alert Bay 360 Eco Paddle
Kayak Race around Cormorant Island. Registration 8:00 AM
Historic Background of Alert Bay

It was in the late 1700's, when Captain George Vancouver anchored his vessel, the H.M.S. Discover, at Xwalgw (mouth of the 'Namgis River). While Captain Vancouver visited the 'Namgis, the Island now known as Cormorant Island, lay just a short distance away. The 'Namgis First Nation used Cormorant Island as a place to bring their people who had passed on. They also lived on the Island on a seasonal basis.

In 1846, the Island was named for the coastal cruiser, the H.M.S. Cormorant and later, about 1858, the Bay was named after the H.M.S. Alert which was then stationed on the Northwest coast.

The period of 1865-1870, saw the beginning of active settlement on Cormorant Island and the nucleus of the formation of the Village of Alert Bay. Two explorers and entrepreneurs named Wesley Spencer and Aulden Huson examined the possibilities of resource development at Suquash and Gwa'ni (the 'Namgis River) before establishing on Cormorant Island. In 1870, they built a small saltery, where local salmon was salted and mildcured before being sent to Victoria. At that time Spencer and Huson leased Cormorant Island from the Government.

As their business grew, Spencer and Huson became aware of the need to establish a permanent work force on the Island. To this end the partners approached the Reverend James Hall, a missionary of the Church Missionary Society, who had just established a mission at Fort Rupert in 1877. They persuaded the Reverend to relocate to Alert Bay and in 1878, a mission house was built to school the first nation boys and girls.

By 1887, the settlement was beginning to show significant signs of progress. In 1881, a store and cannery were built. Reverend Hall supervises the construction of the "Christ Church," which was to achieve several goals such as: the learning of new trades to the first nations and the provision of construction material. A saw mill was established between 1886-1887. The saw mill eventually produced lumber to be used in the construction of homes and a new school for boys.

Government recognition of the growing community came during the 1890's, with the relocation of the Indian Agency from Fort Rupert to Alert Bay. That same year saw the arrival of law and order when the first Provincial Police Constable- Philip Woolacott was stationed in the community.

Education was of prime concern in those early days and in 1894, W.A. Corker was established as Principal of the newly constructed Residential School for boys. The school was situated on approximately 4-5 acres of land and was primarily established to teach the skills of carpentry, furniture making, boat building, animal husbandry, as well as regular academic school work, to first nation boys.

Water transportation has always been an important ingredient of Alert Bay's history. In 1896, the Union Steamship "Comox", made its first regular call while en-route to Rivers Inlet lying to the North. Many other ships representing a variety of purposes ranging from the transportation of goods, to the delivery of visitors who have come to our Island over the years. In more recent years, when the community was at its peak as the centre of the region, regular access was provided by ferry from Kelsey Bay via Beaver Cove. Regular ferry service is now provided from Port McNeill with direct runs to Alert Bay interspersed by trips to neighbouring Malcolm Island. 1902, saw British Columbia Packers Association purchase the cannery from its founders.

A giant step was taken during 1911-1912, when the Dominion Government established the first communications system to link Alert Bay and other now-established communities in the region, also to the Southern centres of Vancouver and Victoria. The system comprised a very crude telegraph service but proved a useful tool to the local industry. In 1912, the Dominion Government built a wireless station in Alert Bay. The station operated principally as an aid to navigation, although was used in other capacities from time to time.
Historic background of Alert Bay

In 1909, the first St. George's Hospital was opened. Despite this trend Alert Bay continued to develop and in 1925, a new St. George's Hospital was opened to replace the original building which suffered fire damage during 1923. That same year a beautiful chapel was built next to the hospital as a memorial to Mrs. Paterson Hall, who, upon her retirement as president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Church of England in Canada, was given an honorarium, which she in turn gave to the Columbia Coast Mission for the erection of the Memorial Chapel. The furnishings were the gift of Mrs. Georgina M. Pennell, also of the Montreal Diocesan Women's Auxiliary. The Toronto Women's Auxiliary, Babies' Branch, donated the baptismal font. The chapel is now located next to the century old Anglican Church. On June 10, 2004 St. George's Hospital was lost to fire.

During 1929, the St. Michael's Residential School, now the Namgis House, was constructed to serve, educate and house native children from outlying areas in the region. The school was solidly built of brick and designed to accommodate 200 children aged from seven to fifteen years old. Our Residential School was one of the last ones to close in the early 1970's. The building was given to the Namgis First Nation April 1973. February 15, 2015 was the beginning of the demolition of this building.

Years passed and the community continued to diversify its activities to include dairy farming, raising of poultry, growing of vegetables, etc. The Nimpkish Hotel became an established part of the community providing accommodation for the traveler and entertainment for the local people.

In 1946, the Village of Alert Bay became incorporated. At the same time the region was commencing a new era of prosperity which would see profitable growth in the fishing and logging industries. Alert Bay flourished as the supply centre for necessary life-sustaining goods and provided the desired recreation and entertainment to the many people employed in fishing and logging. A community hall was built, electricity came to the community, a taxi service was established, a bus service operated on a limited scale and the volunteer firemen of Alert Bay received a shipment of their new fire engine.

Air transportation now began to serve an important role in the development of the community. By 1948, the first elements of an air transportation service had been established to serve the development of the area's natural resources. Until recently only float planes could operate from the Island but during 1972, a landing strip of wheeled aircraft was constructed. The runway which was paved during 1979 is approximately 2,900 feet long.

The present countenance of the Alert Bay community reflects much of its past history. Visitors to the area will be fascinated by the mixing and contrasting of the cultures. The native art forms are represented by their carving, paintings weaving and metal crafting. Artifacts and events of the past can be viewed in the community's U'mista Cultural Centre and the Library-Museum. Above all a casual stroll from one end of the community to the other instills one with an appreciation for the efforts of the early pioneers who carved themselves a place to live, work and created the roots of the village which now exists on Cormorant Island.