

April 9th 2010
Williams Lake
British Columbia
Canada

CARIBOO CHILCOTIN COAST **Top 20 story list**

Unique Characters

Douglas Neasloss

Lead guide and cultural interpreter for Spirit Bear Adventures in Klemtu, BC. Douglas is of Kitasoo ancestry and has had the opportunity to work with some of the most notable scientists, naturalists, and cultural and ethno-geographers in the world.

<http://www.spiritbear.com/site/guides.html>

Barney Bentall & the Grand Cariboo Opry

If you're a Canadian rock fan, chances are you've got some Barney Bentall tunes on your playlist. Bentall and his Vancouver-based band The Legendary Hearts were one of the most popular and widely touring acts in the country during the 1990s. These days Bentall divides his time between solo projects – his latest album, *The Inside Passage*, was released in September 2009 – and hosting the Grand Cariboo Opry, a country and western orchestra complete with hilarious down home monologues.

Formed to raise funds for needy residents in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, the Grand Cariboo Opry was inspired, in part, by Bentall's other career: ranching in British Columbia's Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Region. <http://www.barneybentall.ca/home.html>

Rick Hansen

Rick carried the Olympic torch into BC Place at the opening ceremonies for the 2010 Winter Games. One of five notable Canadian torch bearers (Wayne Gretzky, Catriona LeMay Doan, Steve Nash and Nancy Greene) invited by VANOC to ignite the Olympic opening ceremony cauldron and was also named as honorary Mayor of the 2010 Olympic Village! (Rick grew up in the Cariboo a fishing fanatic and outdoor sportsman). Eight Canadians have been named volunteer honorary mayors to welcome athletes from around the world to their home away from home at the athletes' villages in Whistler and Vancouver during the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. <http://www.rickhansen.com/>

“Mountain Woman” Chris Czajkowski

In 1988, Chris Czajkowski walked into British Columbia's Central Coast Mountains to build a homestead, a business, and a life and now in 2010 she's contemplating change...

<http://www.nuktessli.ca/index.html>

Bernward Kalbhenn “The Influence of German author Karl May (1842 –1912) on modern tourism is alive and well in the Chilcotin”

For a fantastic insight on this writers influence on one of many local resort owners meet **Bernward Kalbhenn** who's own life was effected to the point that he followed his childhood dreams and left his conferrable executive lifestyle in Germany

www.clearwaterlakelodge.com

Green

Cowboys and Carbon Footprints

Remote Siwash Lake Ranch is an off-the-grid dude ranch located in British Columbia's Cariboo region, wrangling the most progressive clean energy technologies is just as integral to the resort as wrangling horses, fly fishing for rainbow trout or tracking black bear, coyotes and cougars.

www.siwashlakeranch.com/site/sustainability.html.

Interesting Events

ArtsWells

Artists have travelled from across the country to this little mountain town to be part of this inspiring collaboration! This is a 4 day outdoor & indoor event designed with community in mind. 500 residents, 5 art galleries and a ton of fun...

<http://www.artswells.com/>

Discovery Coast Music Festival

Enjoy innovative and exciting live performances from all across Canada amidst the pristine coastal landscape of Bella Coola, British Columbia. This family-oriented event boasts an eclectic line-up of music - roots, rock, world, blues, folk and more. With something for everyone, the festival features an interactive Children's Site, food and craft vendors and workshops.

<http://www.bellacoolamusic.org/DCMFestival/Location.html>

High Tea with Queen Victoria

Join Queen Victoria and Albert, Prince Consort, at the Wake Up Jake Saloon in Barkerville Historic Town on **Victoria Day** in honour of the queen's birthday.

<http://picasaweb.google.ca/photobowron/QueenVicTeaParty#>

Chinese Freemason's of Barkerville "Barkerville's Secret Society"

The Chee Kung Tong represented a group that was *dedicated to the overthrow of the Ch'ing dynasty*. A secret society in China, they flourished in the Cariboo and British Columbia, providing services to their members in both in sickness and in health... **Barkerville's living Characters that can connect you to that past Bill Quackenbush** is probably the best point of contact for all things Barkerville as it is his work over the past decade that has helped educate our visiting public to the significance of Barkerville's Chinese community and he can point you in the direction of others who may have more detailed knowledge. Contact Dr Ying Ying Chen yuanshan3333@yahoo.com Barkerville curator Bill Quackenbush bill.quackenbush@barkerville.ca

Hot Honeymoons

Helicopter Honeymoon

Savour the thrill, and romance, of a helicopter honeymoon in Bella Coola valley enjoying the gracious hospitality at the Tweedsmuir Park Lodge. Take in the unrivaled wilderness setting, international cuisine, fine wines and spirits, and receive the pampering you and your sweetheart deserve. Your stay will be in the romantic Grizzly log chalet, which contains a beautiful hand crafted King size bed. Tweedsmuir Provincial Park, and the Bella Coola valley are removed from civilization therefore ideal for your private escape. We offer an itinerary planning service, at no extra cost, so you can design a custom dream honeymoon. We'll match interests, budget and time frames to find that perfect balance.

<http://tweedsmuirparklodge.com/events-retreats/weddings-and-honeymoons>

Honeymoon Haven at Siwash Lake Ranch

Cariboo Country, Nr. 70 Mile House, British Columbia, Canada: Wedding vows bathe the world in a warm glow, and honeymooners seeking the essence of romance and paired possibilities should look no further than Siwash Lake Ranch. As morning light inches across the meadow then slides up the hand-hewn logs of Siwash's 7,000-square-foot ranch house in British Columbia's Cariboo Country, a happy couple greets the day on a private veranda that overlooks the shimmering lake.

Rustic elegance defines this exclusive boutique lodge. Minutes before, the twosome may have enjoyed the nurturing effects of Egyptian linens and a soak in an old-fashioned claw-foot tub. Now they sit, ensconced in fluffy robes and sipping French-press coffee, considering the adventures that will fill their day at Siwash, while songbirds serenade from nearby pines.

http://www.siwashlakeranch.com/site/rates_-_packages/nature--s_hideaway.html

Honeymoon in luxurious western wilderness, charmed with a touch of Thai.

Echo Valley Wilderness Resort & Spa isn't an ordinary honeymoon destination. Think spectacular boreal forests, glacial mountains and desert canyons. Then add a touch of Thai. And you'll discover a one-of-a-kind resort where East meets West in an array of eco adventures, mouthwatering organic cuisine, resort amenities and a unique blend of exotic pampering spa services.

Whether choosing a dreamy cabin for two overlooking a horizon of valleys and mountains, or the opulence of a Thai-style penthouse in North America's only authentic Baan Thai, honeymoon packages are customized to every couple, from in-suite dining to togetherness spa treatments.

Then there are the landscapes of endless possibilities. Hike through forests of scented jack pine. Ride the grassy range to the edge of a desert canyon. Pan for gold. Explore the outback on a jeep safari. Flight-see over glaciers. Or simply savor the romance of a star-filled sky.

Echo Valley Wilderness Ranch and Spa. Explore your passion. And follow your bliss.

http://www.evranch.com/PP_ideas_honeymoon.asp

Foodie

Birch Syrup

Moose Meadows Farm of the Cariboo Region is proud of its efforts towards assisting with the establishment of a viable and active birch syrup industry in Canada. In 2007, they authored the first and only manual on birch syrup production in Canada (*The Birch Syrup Production Manual - Tapping into Syrup Boreal Forest Style*) and was the recipient of the first Award of Excellence in Innovation in Agriculture & Agri-Foods for her efforts. <http://www.moosemeadowsfarm.ca/sugaring.html>

“Pasture to Plate” Grass Fed Beef

The average resident of BC consumes about 30 pounds of beef per year. Raising a single beef animal to 28 months on grassland in a sustainable and eco-conscious way requires about 200 acres of land in the Chilcotin, Redstone area. This land must be managed so that wildlife are well-sustained and their habitat is encouraged to flourish. <http://www.chezacutwildernessadventures.com/> A fully mature beef yields about 300 pounds of meat. This means about 0.66 acres of BC native and ranch land are preserved with every pound of grass-finished beef raised. If BC residents would consume 30 pounds of grass-finished bio-meats each year they could conserve nearly 20 acres of native and ranch land every year, simply by making the choice to support sustainable agriculture <http://www.pasture-to-plate.com/>

An Italian Classic in the heart of the Cariboo

Located on BC's Highway 24 “the Fishing Highway” is the Lac des Roche Resort. Luc & Laura Pieranna originate from Modena and offer up a true Italian restaurant that combines Southern Cariboo hospitality and their Northern Italian chef's specialties www.lacdesroches.com

Adventure Destinations and Activities

Bella Coola/Nuxalk/Hagensborg

Bella Coola exudes a rich culture and history. It is one of the few places where an ancient culture has successfully been passed on to today's inhabitants. Take a Nuxalk Tour to view hidden-away petroglyphs. Spend time in the Bella Coola Museum and then follow a self-guided historic route in the town. In Hagensborg, admire the craftsmanship of the Norwegian homesteads; families can trace their roots back to the 1890's. Follow historic footprints. In 1793 Alexander Mackenzie along with his voyageurs and <http://www.bellacoola.ca/culture/>

Unique to the BC Coast

Imagine following the Salmon in a custom restored Tugboat on a Fishing Adventure. Cruise through some of the most exotic scenery in the world and enjoy the best fishing. The tugboat is your resort and each two guests are supplied with a fully equipped, self guided 18 foot fishing skiff providing you the freedom to choose when you want to fish, explore or relax.

http://www.tugboatcruise.com/package_info1.html

Canyons and Cathedrals a native Indian fishing & cultural adventure

Connect with a culture that is truly connected to nature. This interactive scenic tour on the Fraser River is a unique educational experience that focuses on the local Aboriginal Culture, History and Wildlife.

www.jetboatadventures.com.

Spirit Bear Adventures

Wildlife, Bear Watching Tours and Native Culture in BC's Great Bear Rainforest

Visit the Great Bear Rainforest, the largest intact temperate rainforest in the world. Explore the natural habitat of the Spirit Bear and home of the world's only Kitasoo Spirit Bear Conservancy.

Unique tours in the ancestral lands and traditional territory of the Kitasoo/Xai'xais First Nation.

<http://www.spiritbear.com/>

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

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The Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association is a Destination Marketing Organization that works in conjunction with Tourism BC and the tourism industry in the Cariboo, Chilcotin and Central Coast area to help foster the growth of the tourism industry in the region. For more information on the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast region visit www.landwithoutlimits.com

