

TRAVEL

NEWS



CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TRAVEL BUREAU OTTAWA, CANADA

IT'S FISH AND GAME GALORE HERE

By

Robert Christie

Prince George, British Columbia, is a bustling city of 25,000-plus, handsomely situated in a valley at the meeting place of the Fraser and Nechako Rivers. On its outskirts dwell some surprising suburbanites.

Every now and again these country neighbors are encountered in developed areas circling the city. These sightseers come in two colors -- black and brown. They are bears.

This situation is scarcely as odd as it might at first seem, for some of the world's best big game hunting and fishing are to be had within a very few miles of the local Kiwanis Club. British Columbia, Canada's Pacific province can, without exaggeration, claim a greater variety of major game animals for hunting than anywhere else in North America. The list includes wapiti (elk), caribou, moose, giant grizzlies, the lesser brown and black bears, mountain goat, bighorn sheep, deer, wolves and cougar.

The mighty grizzly has been taken within 30 miles of here.

This area, 508 road miles northeast of Vancouver, is simply a wonderland for the all-around outdoorsman. Lakes in north central British Columbia yield the game Rainbow trout, small-mouthed bass and the Arctic grayling. In addition, local lakes and rivers offer the Dolly Varden and eastern brook trout, the Kokani -- a landlocked sockeye salmon -- and lake trout.

Every year since 1950 the world's largest recorded steelhead has been caught in the Hazelton area, reached by driving west over Highway 16 out of Prince George. Its Kisplox River is particularly famed.

Whether trolling, spinning or fly-fishing, catches commonly made here take the stranger a little time to believe -- maybe he never does. Fishing is frequently so spectacular that the greenest amateurs make catches that anywhere else would bring pride to veteran anglers. Rainbow trout run up to as much as 20 pounds, Dolly Vardens to 10 pounds, lake trout to a whopping 24 pounds.

Such lakes in this area as Ness, Tacheda, McLeod's, Bear and Cluculz abound in Rainbows. The kokani is also to be found in Cluculz Lake, as is char.

Non-resident fishing licenses for American visitors cost \$7.00, and can be obtained easily at the local Fish and Game Department office. All anglers' licenses are valid from date of issue to April 30th of the following year.

Because many of the best hunting areas are rough and likely to be remote, and because some species of native big game are often dangerous, it is against the law to hunt such game -- including deer -- unless accompanied by a licensed guide. Top guides are available throughout the area and now have their own association to provide visiting fishermen and hunters with professional service and a complete line of equipment.

A list of registered and fully qualified guides may be obtained by writing to the Chamber of Commerce, 101 George Street, Prince George, British Columbia.

These men, all of them completely familiar with the area and the game to be taken, can guide the visiting sportsman to whatever game he is seeking -- moose, grizzly or mountain goat, to name the tough ones.

Non-resident license fees, entitling the holder to hunt big game, deer and birds with the sole exception of pheasant, cost \$50. In addition, trophy fees are payable on all big game animals killed. These fees are subject to change from time to time, so that those planning a trip are advised to check with the Canadian Government Travel Bureau in Ottawa.

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At present, the price ranges from \$5 for a black bear to \$60 for a moose.

Prince George offers excellent accommodation. There are a number of hotels and motels in a wide price range. Summer cabins are also available and, for those who prefer their own tent to any other shelter, camp-sites.

Transportation facilities are excellent. There are daily flights by Canadian Pacific Airlines. Two railways, the Canadian National and the Pacific Great Eastern, offer frequent and reliable service. Greyhound Lines operate bus connections from Vancouver. A number of local airplane and helicopter firms offer special charter service to otherwise inaccessible spots.

Only one drawback is to be encountered in Prince George: the sportsman who comes for a mere two or three weeks finds it almost impossible to say goodbye to such country. Who knows? Perhaps this phenomenon accounts for the city's rank as the province's fastest-growing community.

If you want to make it a family holiday, Prince George is the focal point for many exciting side trips: a few miles to the southeast is Barkerville, restored goldrush town; the Caribou Highway south out of Prince George, is noted for its historic associations; Prince Rupert, 467 miles away, is the terminus for the Inside Passage cruise, renowned for its rugged beauty. To obtain maps and literature on this entire area, write to the Canadian Government Travel Bureau, Ottawa, Ontario.

TRAVEL

FEATUR

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TRAVEL BUREAU OTTAWA, CANADA

EXCLUSIVE TO YOU IN YOUR
READERSHIP AREA.

CHEECHAKO, YOU TOO CAN RUN THE MILES CANYON

By
Lyn Harrington

You may be a novice riverman, but the raging waters of Miles Canyon, terror of the Klondike goldrush, needn't daunt you. They've been tamed considerably by the power dam at Whitehorse, which backs up the water for 25 miles.

One result is that the boat craze reached Yukon's capital. Hydro Lake buzzes with outboard motors. Sailboats skim over cold green waters where Squaw and Whitehorse Rapids once foamed.

The galloping white waters that gave the northern city its name were a life-and-death challenge to the sourdoughs (experienced northerners) of the turn of the century, but today, even a Cheechako (tenderfoot) can make the trip.

From mid-June to September, a new 40-passenger diesel-engined cruiser, MS Schwatka, makes a daily excursion from its dock in Hydro Lake. The 3-hour cruise, costing \$8 per adult and half that for children, includes coffee and doughnuts in the lounge.

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Schwatka (named for an American explorer) leaves the two-mile lake, churns upstream between sculptured yellow cutbanks into the Devil's Punchbowl, a bay of boiling eddies. The engine throbs louder at the narrow entrance to Miles Canyon. Here you can feel the cruiser fighting the turbulent current sometimes, within arm's reach of the basalt walls.

Above the canyon and its footbridge, the river quietens. The forest crowds to the water's edge, and myriad wildflowers bloom in every glade. About 16 miles from Whitehorse, Schwatka circles back for the swift downstream passage.

This river trip is included in package-deals combining a cruise up the Inside Passage and a train junket from Skagway over the historic White Pass railway.

Such tours include the historic sights of the capital itself -- Indian gravehouses, old sternwheelers drawn up on shore, a sample of the wooden tramway that once hauled boats past the rapids. There's also Sam McGee's cabin, the Old Log Church and the museum that was Yukon's first telegraph office.

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canadian government travel bureau ottawa, canada

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CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TRAVEL BUREAU OTTAWA, CANADA

FEATURETTE

CANADA HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

Although 1967 is just around the corner, Canada still has one more birthday to reach before she can throw herself into centennial celebrations. That will be on Friday, July 1.

The red carpet is being dusted off, bands are tuning up, and entertainers are rehearsing as Ottawa and other cities prepare for celebrations marking Canada's last year as a nonagenarian.

In Ottawa, Ontario, home of the federal parliament buildings, the sound of music, guns, and bells will fill the air just as they did 99 years ago when Canada celebrated the union of Upper and Lower Canada, now Ontario and Québec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

The colorful Changing the Guard ceremony at ten o'clock, backed by hundreds of years of tradition, will set the pace.

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An artillery salute will boom out Canada's birthday greetings and several bands including the 100-piece Armed Forces band will put the same message into music.

Local and national talent will display their talents at two folk festivals in the evening, one of them to be televised live from Parliament Hill.

And at various times throughout the day, visitors near the Hill will be able to hear carillon recitals by Robert Donnell as he plays the 53 great bells in the Peace Tower.

But the birthday celebrations are as widespread as Canada herself and Ottawa is not the only city putting on its best "bib and tucker".

In Toronto, Ontario, thoroughbred horses will be taking to the turf in the Dominion Day stakes. And in Niagara Falls, Ontario, girls will be taking to the stage as they compete in the Miss Dominion of Canada beauty pageant.

Pugwash, Nova Scotia, will pipe in Canada's 100th year with the skirl of bagpipes and the twirl of the tartans at the annual Gathering of the Clans. Added attractions at this east coast festival are the Fisherman's Regatta with boat rides and races, and freshly caught lobster to eat.

Another fishy affair will flourish in Flin Flon, Manitoba, where the Trout Festival goes on from June 30 to July 3rd. For those who want to keep their feet dry there is baseball, a street fair, a golf tournament, and to top it off in a swinging fashion, a square dance.

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British Columbia, which is celebrating its own centennial in 1966, is combining past and present in a series of celebrations on July 1 and throughout the summer.

If you want to help Canada light the candles on her 99th birthday cake, write to the Canadian Government Travel Bureau, Ottawa, Canada, for the Family Fun Kit of literature. You will receive, free of charge, brochures on the Trans-Canada Highway, Border Crossing regulations, National Parks, a province-by-province listing of events in Canada throughout the summer, and a highway map showing all Canada, and northern United States.

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FEATURES

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FEATURETTE

BANFF INDIAN DAYS

You've been to the Calgary Stampede -- you figure you've seen everything the Canadian west has to offer in the way of cowboys, Indians, bronco busting, steer riding -- the whole gamut.

But don't go away. To use an old saying "you ain't seen nothin' yet". So round up the herd, get on that eight cylinder horse and head 80 miles west to the Canadian Rockies for the Alberta Indians' big show -- the Banff Indian Days.

Sarcees, Crees, Blackfeet, Stony, Peigan and Bloods pour into Banff from reservations right across the province for this four-day annual fiesta, August 11 to 14 this year.

Chiefs in their beautiful beaded deerskins and magnificent headdresses ride proudly down Banff's main street looking every bit the magnificent tribesmen. Then come the women, or squaws -- some young and pretty, others old and weatherbeaten -- some with papooses strapped to their backs, others with older children and equipment trailing behind on travois poles.

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As many as 1,000 Indians pitch their colorful tepees on Banff sports ground beneath the towering peaks of Cascade and Rundle mountains. In this natural setting the Indians bring all their past barbaric splendor to life. The Banff valley echoes to the spine-chilling rhythm of the tom-toms and wild yells as near-nude Indians in loin-cloth and feathers twirl hoops from wrists and ankles and beat time with their moccasined feet.

If inhibitions permit, you too, can participate in this spontaneous, uncommercialized, spectacular by dancing the chicken dance or chanting around a campfire. The Indians also stage their own rodeo events, bow and arrow contests, a tug-o'-war on horseback and children's races.

Banff Indian Days has been a wonderful experience for thousands over the past 74 years. It owes its origin to a wet summer in 1889 when the Bow River washed out the local railway line, stranding several trainloads of holidaymakers. Not knowing how to entertain these unexpected visitors the people of Banff asked the few Indians to put on a show -- and that's how it all started.

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FEATURETTE

TREASURE TROVE OF HISTORY

By
Fred H. Phillips

The York-Sunbury Museum in Fredericton, New Brunswick, is a monument to the early colonial life of Canada.

Built in the center of the city, it was an Officers' Barracks in the days before Confederation (1867) when Fredericton was still a garrison town for British troops. Its stone arches, iron handrails and staircases are typical of the architecture used by the Royal Engineers in the colonial period.

The opposite ends of the barracks reveal a progression in building methods. The older end, toward the St. John River, built before 1839, has much thicker walls of solid masonry than has the end toward Queen Street, built around 1851. Hand-hewn beams on the older portion and sawn timbers at the other end suggest that a sawmill was established in the area some time between 1839 and 1851.

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Exhibits within the museum trace the development of pioneer life in the community -- the old fashioned rip-saw used before the harnessing of steam; an ancient lock 20 inches long, 12 inches wide and four inches thick, turned by a key 18 inches long; one of the original seven telephones installed in Fredericton in 1878. . .

A parlor and bedroom furnished in pioneer tradition with furniture brought to the province by the early settlers, include a mahogany lowboy with fan carving, in Queen Anne style, brought out from England about 1790; a high-backed Windsor chair brought to New Brunswick from Massachusetts during the Loyalist immigration of 1783; a spool bed of the 1860 era, complete with feather tick; a white coverlet handwoven in France in 1712 and brought out to Nova Scotia by a French family who later figured in the Expulsion of the Acadians, immortalized in Longfellow's poem, "Evangeline".

A comprehensive range of military exhibits includes swords and uniforms dating from revolutionary times; powder horns and slings of early bullet molds; a matchlock dating back to the Egyptian campaign of the early 80's; matched pistols from the Civil War period.

The Micmac and Maliseet Indians of the area are represented by stone age weapons and utensils, and the trinkets used for trade by the white man.

This is a glowing, growing exhibit, which is being added to constantly. It is open to the public free of charge each week-day and Sunday afternoon throughout the summer months.