

Brief History of Bella Bella

Recent archaeological findings have confirmed that Heiltsuk people have lived here on the Central Coast for 14,000+ years.

Our ancestors occupied several Heiltsuk villages that surround present day Bella Bella, and they used an intricate network of waterways between winter and summer villages.

In 1833, Hudson's Bay Company built Fort Mcloughlin at 'Qlc, a small bay in Heiltsuk territory.

In 1862-63, smallpox epidemic greatly reduces our population by 85%, surviving members of surrounding communities amalgamated in 'Qlc, ensuring the future of our Nations.

In 1870, Heiltsuk tribes continued to amalgamate in 'Qlc.

From 1897 to 1903, Heiltsuk relocated from McLoughlin Bay to New Bella Bella. In the 1930's, missionaries arrived and the government implemented the Residential School System.

In 1981, the first potlach held in Heiltsuk territory since the potlach ban, hosted by Vivian Wilson and Chief Toby Moody-Humchitt.

In 2015, The "Declaration of Heiltsuk Title and Rights" was signed.

Products & Services

Accommodations

Alvina's Place.....250-957-7442
Howards Place..... 250-230-2014
Home of Cumqlaq..... 250-668-0154
Milbanke.....250-957-7461

Retail

Brown's Mini Mart.....250-957-2629
Lama Pass Fuel Co.....250-957-2240/2242
Liquor Store.....250-957-2300
Roanna's Store..... 250-957-2729
Waglisla Bandstore.....250-957-2373

Food and Beverage

Aftershocks Coffee Shop.....250-957-2781
J.A.C.C.E.S Icecream Shop..778-213-8183

Local Photography

Tevan Wilson.....www.duqvlamedia.com

Transportation

BC Ferries Terminal.....250-957-2810
Pacific Coastal Airlines.....250-957-2285

Taxi to/from Airport/Ferry Only

Don Starr.....250-957-7603
Sean Carter.....250-650-0839

Local Tours / Fishing Charters

Milbanke Adventures.....1-250-957-7461 Y
Coastal Adventures.....1-850-896-6960
Cultus Sound Charters.....1-778-913-9971

If you would like to advertise with our team, or if you have any questions or comments, please email info@heiltsuk.ca and one of our team members will connect with you!



Qátuwálas

"A Place To Gather"

Heiltsuk Information Centre

778-213-8368

Info@heiltsuk.ca

www.Qatuwalas.ca



Present Day Bella Bella

Bella Bella is the home of our Heiltsuk First Nations people and is located on British Columbia's Central Coast (in the Heart of the Great Bear Rainforest). Heiltsuk territory is a pristine natural environment filled with beauty, wildlife, and the rich history of our people. Our community residents consist mostly of Heiltsuk members, along with a small percentage of other Nations and Non-First Nations people. Heiltsuk membership has a total of 2494 registered members, half of which reside in Heiltsuk territory. Bella Bella's thriving economy has numerous businesses, many are Band owned and operated, others are privately owned. Centrally located entities include; Waglisla Band Store, Waglisla Liquor Agency, Post Office, Roanna's Convenience Store, Heiltsuk Big House, Community Hall, Dental Clinic (Health Centre/Social Development), Community Garden, & the 'Qatuwalas.

Bella Bella Trail Map

Welcome to the hiking section of our brochure, where we invite you to discover the captivating trails in Bella Bella, British Columbia. Nestled in a mesmerizing coastal setting, this area showcases breathtaking landscapes, vibrant rainforests, and a rich cultural heritage influenced by the Heiltsuk First Nations. Immerse yourself in this natural and cultural wonderland as you traverse our hiking trails. Prepare to be enchanted by ancient forests, pristine shorelines, and panoramic vistas of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding islands. Whether you're an experienced hiker seeking a multiday adventure or a leisurely nature enthusiast, our well-maintained and clearly marked trails cater to all fitness levels.



Hiking Information

Step into Nature's Masterpiece: Hiking Trails in Bella Bella, Where Adventure and Beauty Collide!

Hiking alone in the woods of Bella Bella, BC, Canada can be dangerous. The rugged terrain and dense foliage can make it easy to get lost, and encounters with wildlife like bears, wolves, and cougars are possible.

Sudden weather changes can also be hazardous. To stay safe, bring a map, compass, and GPS device, make noise while hiking, carry bear spray, and be prepared for changes in weather

Emergency Numbers

Fire Department: 250 957 2345
Bella Bella RCMP: 250 957 2388
RW Large hospital: 250 957 2314
BC Ambulance Service:
1 800 461 9911 (9-1-1 does not work in our remote location)
Poison control: 1 800 561 8911
Air & Sea Rescue: 1 800 567 5111 or VHF Channel 16
Wildfire Reporting #5555
Environmental Response:
250 413 2800