



WOLF IN THE FOG
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THE CANADIAN

Travel bucket list

From coast to coast, our country is home to some of the most incredible sights and experiences. If you aren't lucky enough to live in one of the must-see destinations on these pages, here's why you should visit.



TOFINO, B.C.

Wildly LUXURIOUS

From left: Located on Cox Bay, the Pacific Sands Beach Resort is steps from the surf; Tofino's wild, wet coast is a popular spot for storm watching.

NATURAL WONDERS

CLOISTERED in a tangle of towering evergreens and the sound of crashing surf, Tofino, B.C., doesn't share its wonders easily. The trip from Vancouver is two hours by ferry, then another four by car, traversing highways, regional roads and, finally, a narrow necklace of pavement strung along mountains. But the payoff eclipses the journey, as the tourist influx—Tofino's year-round population of 1,800 swells to 22,000 in the summer—will attest.

After the long haul to Vancouver Island's westernmost outpost, my family and I needed the kind of re-energizing that comes from the wild Pacific, but we also craved the rustic luxury that Tofino has cultivated for years.

The Pacific Sands Beach Resort, one of the original luxury lodges in Tofino, meets both sets of demands with accommodations that range from studio kitchen suites (as low as \$200 a night during the winter storm season) to beach houses. Both offer the chance to freshen up in a double-soaker bathtub while peeking at the ocean through floor-to-ceiling windows. Nightly s'mores roasts and summer BYOB salmon bakes round things out, making the resort your family's playground.

PHOTOGRAPHY: PACIFIC SANDS BEACH RESORT (RESORT); JEREMY KORESKI (COUPLE); DESTINATION BC (TOTEM POLE); J.F. BERGERON (NORTHERN LIGHTS); PETER LEMELUX/ICEWALKS.COM (ICE FIELD)

PHOTOGRAPHY: ROCKY MOUNTAINEER (TRAIN); GETTY IMAGES (DINOSAUR SKULL); TERRY PARKER/NWTT (CHURCH)

As idyllic as the grounds are, we couldn't resist grabbing the free bikes, available to guests renting beach houses, and heading to town for some predinner snacks and drinks at two buzzed-about spots. The Tofino Brewing Company, a local-ingredient-obsessed, surfer-run gem, has a tasting room that's packed with both tourists and locals deciding between such curious brews as Kelp Stout and Hoppin' Cretin IPA. Can't choose? Just order the flight to try them all.

Next, indulge in apps and sundowners (Tofino's answer to happy hour) at the new Ice House Oyster Bar. It offers one of the best waterfront patios in the country, with a panorama of wheeling bald eagles and fishing trawlers against a jaw-dropping backdrop of mountains and ocean.

Cap the evening off with dinner at Wolf in the Fog. Open since June of last year, this rustically elegant venue appeals to foodies, surfers and families alike. My family loved sharing the massive portions, as well as choosing from the best of the local bounty: foraged mushrooms, seaweed salad and the signature potato-crusting Beach Angel oysters.

Well fed and rested, we set off the next morning on the five-hour Sea to Sky tour