

hidden
gems

Nita Lake Lodge

by Tracey Drake

*People, even more than things,
have to be restored, renewed,
revived, reclaimed,
and redeemed.*

-AUDREY HEPBURN

A picturesque and well-deserved reprieve from the hustle and bustle in Whistler, B.C

The mountain town of Whistler, B.C has become a busy little mecca for sports enthusiasts, nature lovers and tourists in general. The community has developed an excellent reputation, not only for world-class powder, but a haven to indulge in exceptional dining, fine hotels and experience unparalleled health, spa and wellness activities.

If you are one of those people whose life is in desperate need of a recharge, let me tell you about Nita Lake Lodge.

My life is all about hustle and bustle, trying to cram as much as I can into each 24 hour block of time. So, when I am on holiday, I prefer to be removed from the main street action of a resort town; just far enough so that I can find my own vacation rhythm but not so far that I cannot partake of the nightlife and dining, when the mood strikes me. This is what I loved most about Nita Lake Lodge.

Perched elegantly on a pristine glacier fed lake, Nita Lake Lodge is just a five minute shuttle (complimentary) ride from the heart of Whistler Village. I chose the Hepburn quote quite on purpose, because Nita Lake Lodge reminded me a little of Audrey; beautiful, majestic and well put together, but never pretentious or boastful — equally comfortable in heels and lipstick or ballet flats and a ponytail.

Named one of the top 25 hotels in Canada by TripAdvisor, this massive wood lodge is located a mere 500 metres from the base of Whistler Mountain in the Creekside community. Our lakefront suite was spacious and comfortable, with a massive beamed wall with fireplace that separated the living and sleeping areas. Expansive windows in both rooms and a balcony overlooking Nita Lake quickly became a favourite spot to convene for drinks and conversation; early morning with coffee and late evening with a great bottle of B.C wine. The spa bathroom featured a massive soaker tub and a 2-person stone tiled glass shower. I was also impressed with the L'Occitane en Provence toiletries, one of my favourite brands.

Dining at Nita Lake Lodge was certainly a gastronomic treat! Lunch at Fix Café was homemade heaven, with delicious breads and pastries, expertly brewed coffee and one of the best fruit smoothies I have ever had. Dinner at Aura Restaurant was a multi-course sensation, and we reveled in every mouthful.

Whistler's only train station is located at Nita Lake Lodge and there is a lovely walking path behind the hotel, which meanders alongside the creek and railway tracks. This is also the type of property that you just want to spend time in the open concept lobby and public spaces.

Cure Lounge, the central bar area with oversize lodge furnishings was warm and cozy. I recommend sampling their craft cocktails — including Two On The Roof, made with gin, fresh Lavender syrup, fresh lemon and soda.

No wellness retreat is complete without a trip to the spa, and The Spa at Nita Lake Lodge did not disappoint. The peace and tranquility was palpable from the moment I walked through the spa doors. The relaxation lounge was flooded with natural light and comfortable chaises. The rooftop hot tub and steam room were divine, and the treatments were professional and much needed. I highly recommend Sole Therapy and Nurturing Body Wrap treatments. The Spa at Nita Lake Lodge specializes in wellness featuring sustainably-sourced organic products and offering an unforgettable experience.

Nestled in the mountains, surrounded by natural awesomeness and created to elevate your senses and your expectations of what a great destination resort should be, Nita Lake Lodge was the perfect place for me to restore, renew, revive, reclaim and redeem. The management of Nita Lake Lodge dubs its property to be exceptional, intimate, authentic.

An enthusiastic YES on all three counts from me.

