



with
**CHERYL
MackINNON**

lifestyles



Photo: West Coast Fishing Club, View from the Clubhouse

Getaway BC

Living in British Columbia, we are incredibly fortunate to have an abundance of distinctive hotels, inns and lodges, as well as resort-style properties located in every region. With so many choices, how does one decide? I recommend reading British Columbia Magazine and the travel sections in the newspapers. Web sites are quick and easy references too. Check with neighbours, friends and co-workers, to family members and your favourite grocery store clerk. There's nothing like a first hand experience to inspire.

A SPECIAL REPORT PROVIDED BY GLOBAL TV'S CHERYL MACKINNON

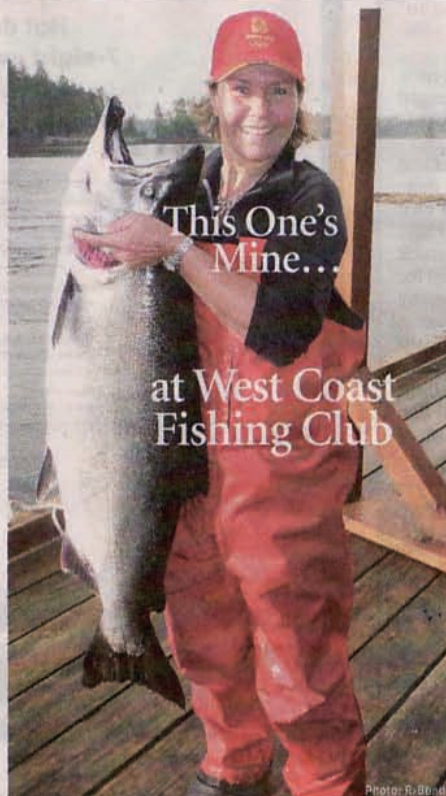


Photo: R. Bond

From a girl who isn't big on camping, this should come as no surprise that fishing has never been high on my bucket list either. That is until a magnificent trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands – also known as Haida Gwaii – taken with the great team at 'No longer only 'the Guys Getaway', there is recognizable growth in women seeking out fishing adventures. Terry Cowan, General Manager at The Clubhouse, the most luxurious of West Coast Fishing Club's three lodges summed it up well. "While fishing is the hook – pun intended – there are lifestyle choices here too. To be one with nature and wildlife, breathing the fresh air amongst some of the world's most spectacular scenery

is incomparable. Our Culinary Packages, which combine the passion of fishing with the love of cooking, interestingly, appeal to men and women. Our corporate guests, again noticeably more women attending than in the past, find fishing trips more engaging and relaxed compared to a golf game. Out on a boat for ten hours builds stronger relationships, as you actually spend time with the people, as well as the sport."

Here's why returning guests rave. Management and staff quickly learn names and preferences – or peculiarities depending on how you look at it. Bowls filled with complimentary fruit, nuts and snacks, including yummy freshly baked treats, adorn the tables, ready for the taking. The open bar offers a good selection of wines, beers and spirits, complemented by fabulous nightly pre-dinner drinks and hors d'oeuvres. And the food! Meal after meal, the presentation and flavours wowed our taste buds. Apart from fishing, relax by the



Photo: West Coast Fishing Club

fire, read a book or play a game of pool, it's your choice. And, following an exhilarating day pursuing the fish, or simply enjoying the area, a sound sleep will be yours. Guest rooms are thoughtfully appointed and quite frankly, there isn't anything the management and staff won't do for you.



West Coast Fishing Club

Fishing and More

Take a day off from fishing and: Hit the high seas (literally, so be brave) for a boat tour around the area and sightings of killer whales, massive sea lions and eagles rapidly diving to snatch fish from the water's surface. Tour the Haida Village of the Kiusta on Graham Island, abandoned in the mid 1850s due to a small pox epidemic. Take a helicopter tour and enjoy a specially prepared picnic on a private beach. Book a massage, relax in the steam room or sauna, or unwind in one of the two hot tubs on The Clubhouse deck.



Photo: West Coast Fishing Club

Getaway Details

West Coast Fishing Club –
www.westcoastfishingclub.com
or call 1.888.432.6666

Queen Charlotte Islands/Haida Gwaii –
www.haidagwaiitourism.ca
or call 1.250.559.8316

Northwest British Columbia
or call 1.800.663.8843

British Columbia Magazine –
www.beautifulbc.ca

Apologies to The Beach Club Resort in Parksville... last week, the web site should have read www.beachclubbc.com – check it out, as this is an outstanding getaway property!

WHAT'S NEXT? The Beauty, The History and The Glorious Sunshine of Puerto Vallarta and Cancun, Mexico.

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