



KAYAK IN PARADISE SUSTAINABLY

With an Award Winning Company



AWARD RECIPIENT
SINCE 2015



BEST TOUR OPERATOR
WESTERN CANADA



TOUR OPERATOR OF
THE YEAR



AWARDED FOR OUR
BC TOURS



REMARKABLE EXPERIENCE
OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018



ULTIMATE ADVENTURE
BUCKET LIST



OUR STORY ... SO FAR

Spirit of the West Adventures began in 1997 as a van rental company but quickly morphed into a kayaking company offering day tours around Quadra. Today, we offer trips between 4 and 19 days in length in a variety of locations around B.C., and in Chile and the Bahamas during the winter. Breanne Quesnel and Rick Snowdon came to Quadra Island 16 years ago to work as sea kayak guides... and never left. They fell in love with the island and the community that makes it so special. It is their home and they are thrilled to share it with guests from around the world.



RICK SNOWDON

Rick spent his early years paddling in Ontario before heading to sea in tall ships for much of his high school years. He completed degrees in Outdoor Recreation and Biology at Lakehead University, spent time studying oceanography in Woods Hole in 2000, and found summer work with search and rescue for the Canadian Coast Guard. Having sailed the Great Lakes, California coast, North Atlantic and South Pacific, Rick took up sea kayaking in 1998. As a freelance writer, guide and photographer Rick has traveled around Canada and around the world, and has volunteered and worked in countries including Vanuatu, Mexico, Australia, Ecuador and Grenada. He is past president of the Sea Kayak Guides Alliance of B.C. and represents tourism and recreation at the Marine Areas Planning Partnership process. Bringing all this experience together serves to give perspective to and enhance his guiding skills and approach to issues affecting the coast.

BREANNE QUESNEL

Over the years, Breanne has worn many hats: whitewater canoe guide, tree planter, environmental educator, school teacher, sea kayak guide and, in recent years, mother and co-owner of Spirit of the West Adventures. As a self-proclaimed 'recovering teacher' she loves being able to share her passions in the informal and hands-on setting that kayak touring provides. She has completed an Honours Bachelor of Outdoor Recreation Parks and Tourism, Bachelor of Geography and a Bachelor of Education-Secondary. Breanne is the Vice-president of the Wilderness Tourism Association which strives to work with government and industry to provide a sustainable land base and operating conditions for members through leadership, advocacy and stewardship. She is a founding member of the North Island Marine Mammal Stewardship Association, is a member of the Discovery Islands Tourism and Forestry Working Group and represents commercial tourism at the federal Marine Areas Planning process.



We protect the ENVIRONMENT

We aim to be a leader in responsible and sustainable tourism and business practices. There are many ways that we minimize our impact, green our operations and contribute to the communities we live and work in.



We work with an AMAZING TEAM

Happy team members are good for business. We offer intensive training, health benefits and annual raises to retain the best staff in the industry. Our team is fun, knowledgeable and experienced - and it shows!



We care about THE DETAILS

We are famous for going the extra mile, We include home baking on tours. We source local, organic, fair trade food when possible. And we anticipate and accommodate individual guest needs from start to finish.

JOIN SPIRIT OF THE WEST ON AN ADVENTURE

Come witness the best **British Columbia, The Bahamas, and Chile** have to offer: wilderness travel without effort or experience required! Our professional guides help you explore areas rich in wildlife and culture. We offer a wide variety of multi-day kayaking tours, including nomadic expedition-style trips through to luxury basecamp "glamping" experiences. Each trip boasts expert guides, gourmet food, top-notch gear, stunning backdrops, abundant wildlife and intimate group sizes. Explore world-famous Johnstone Strait, the Broughton Archipelago, Desolation Sound, the Great Bear Rainforest, the Discovery Islands and West Vancouver Island with us this summer. Or head to coastal Patagonia and the Bahamas for our winter adventures.

Our **MISSION** is to thrive in the adventure tourism industry through unique and educational trips. We want to connect you to incredible places, leaving you inspired to make sustainable choices; choices which ultimately help protect environments such as those in which we kayak together. We are committed to hiring and buying locally; supporting green initiatives; being responsible contributors to the local community and economy; and generally being good, fair and kind people. It is a privilege to be ambassadors for these beautiful areas and all their inhabitants.

TRIP DETAILS

3 COUNTRIES WHERE WE OFFER TOURS

8 DIFFERENT TOURS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

4-19 DAY TRIP LENGTH

13 PERSON MAX GROUP SIZE

2 ENTICING WOOD-FIRED HOTTUBS

220+ RESIDENT ORCAS

121 HUMPBACK WHALES



OUR COMPANY IN NUMBERS

45 

WONDERFUL
PEOPLE WORKING
AS A TEAM

22 

YEARS OF
SUSTAINABLE
TOURISM

1143 

SATISFIED GUESTS
FROM LAST YEAR
ALONE

120 

TOURS
SCHEDULED FOR
2019

STORY IDEAS FOR YOUR PUBLICATION



CUT OUT COMPUTERS NOT COMFORT

Report on our Whales & Wilderness Glamping

Digital detox in the wilderness is often associated with tiny tents, freeze-dried meals and sleeping on the ground. But on Spirit of the West's glamping tour, tents are 8 feet tall, meals are prepared with fresh ingredients, and beds have side tables.



AN ODE TO GETTING ON THE WATER

Feature our Johnstone Strait Expedition Tour

What makes the perfect kayaking destination? Lots of small islands, passageways, protected water, wildlife, and a sense of remoteness. The Broughton Archipelago has all this and more, making it one of the world's top kayaking destinations.



FUN FOR THE FAMILY: KAYAK CAREFREE

Spread the word about our Orca Family Tours

Looking for adventure the whole family will enjoy? Terrified by the prospect of traveling with children? Spirit of the West guides will help keep your family happy with games, activities, and stories so that you can have the vacation you deserve.



WHALES FROM THE SKY

Feature our Johnstone Strait Ultimate Tour

Aerial imagery has historically been an expensive undertaking. With the rise of affordable drones, however, it is becoming increasingly accessible to the average consumer. How does this imagery both help and hinder species on the B.C. coast?



ETHICS AND ECOTOURISM

Showcase our Great Bear Rainforest Tours

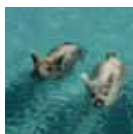
What does it mean to travel in nature ethically? How can we protect environments and respect indigenous cultures while still experiencing remote areas? Spirit of the West is committed to sustainable tourism and wants to show you how.



YOU OTTER BELIEVE IT!

Promote our Nuchatlitz Expedition Tour

The Nuchatlitz is home to one of the largest sea otter populations on the west coast. But this hasn't always been the case. See how these amazing creatures have restored ecological health to a natural world in upheaval.



Feature our Bahamas Land and Sea Park Tour

Turquoise sea, coral reefs, and... swimming pigs? These shipwrecked survivors have thrived on the beach near the spectacular Land and Sea Park. Explore this marine protected area by kayak and meet some of the "locals".



CLIMB ABOARD THE MOTHERSHIP

Introduce our Ultimate Patagonia Tour

With a traditional wooden vessel as your floating home, traverse a wilderness in northern Patagonia from Puerto Aysen to glacier San Rafael with Spirit of the West. Paddle in the company of expert Canadian guides and knowledgeable Chilean crew.

For more information about our tours and a comprehensive media kit visit:

kayakingtours.com/media-kit

