



Canyon Voice

Skeena Valley Expeditions

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring 2007



Skeena Valley Expeditions is born

After a hiatus of 3 seasons away from the world of river rafting I have returned. This time however, it is to steer the ship. I am proud to announce the birth of Skeena Valley Expeditions Incorporated. I've moved to Terrace, BC and am settling happily back onto the rivers. It's all downstream from here. Skeena Valley Expeditions is operating single day white-water and float trips in the vicinity of Terrace. The number of rivers here is phenomenal with the limit on possibilities capped only by the imagination. I have

been very impressed after the summer of exploratory work in the area. Even after standing amongst Musk-oxen on the shores of the Beaufort Sea, rowing through icebergs on the Tatshenshini River, or discovering pre-historic ruins overlooking the Grand Canyon I am spell bound by the towering granite walls, tumbling coastal glaciers, and white Kermode Bears of the Terrace area.



Kisgegas Canyon, Babine River

Skeena Valley Expeditions purchases Rivers and Oceans

Hatha worked for Rivers and Oceans for nearly a decade. He spent most of his time guiding on the Tatshenshini and Babine Rivers but also helped out on the Chilko River some and with a variety of general company activities. Rivers and Oceans ceased their

operations after the 2005 summer and did not resume in 2006. The timing was right and Skeena Valley Expeditions purchased much of Rivers and Oceans' equipment, and their Tatshenshini, Babine, and Chilko River permits.

Tim Schoahs, the former Rivers and Oceans manager is working closely with Skeena Valley Expeditions to ensure the smooth transition of a long tradition of high quality trips to new hands. Skeena Valley Expeditions

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Special points of interest:

- Local Terrace BC day trips
- Tatshenshini and Babine River Expeditions
- Custom departures
- Professional guides and river safety program
- B.C.R.O.A. Members



**SKEENA
VALLEY**
EXPEDITIONS

SVE Acquires R&O (from pg. 1)



will be focusing on the northern expeditions and will be offering Tatshenshini and Babine departures in the 2007 summer.

The Skeena Valley Expeditions trips will maintain the same high standards in terms of customer service, environmental stewardship, safety standards, quality equipment, experienced guides, exceptional food, fine wine, and attention to detail that made the previ-

ous Rivers and Oceans trips so popular.

The same commitment to our guests in terms of pre trip, on trip and post trip care will be given as a standard cornerstone feature of Skeena Valley Expeditions.

Also, the same commitment to environmentally responsible operating procedures will be maintained in an effort to leave the pristine areas we visit unchanged

for future generations to enjoy.

If you were familiar with Rivers & Oceans before, you will be familiar with Skeena Valley Expeditions and we invite you to come back for another world class experience. If you hadn't experienced a Rivers and Oceans expedition, I invite you to discover a life changing wilderness trip attainable by almost anyone.

Tatshenshini River

"The river connects the Interior Plateau with the Pacific Ocean bisecting the St. Elias Mountains which contain the world's largest non-polar ice caps and some of the planet's most spectacular scenery."

In 1993 the Province of BC designated the North-western corner of British Columbia a Class A Provincial Park. This was the final piece of the puzzle making the combined areas of Kluane National Park in the Yukon, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve in Alaska to the South, and the Wrangle / St. Elias National Park in Alaska to the North the largest protected area on earth.

The following year the area as a whole was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site making it the largest one in the world.

The river flows 10 days from the historic trading site known as Dalton Post in the Yukon, through BC, and the Alaskan Panhandle to

end at a small fishing cannery at Dry Bay, Alaska on the Pacific Ocean. The river connects the Interior Plateau with the Pacific Ocean bisecting the St. Elias Mountains which contain the world's largest non-polar ice caps and some of the planet's most spectacular scenery. The region is home to a completely intact ecosystem making wildlife viewing second to none. Grizzly Bear, Mountain Goat, Moose, Bald Eagle, multiple species of Salmon, a plethora of unique wildflowers including entire mountainsides painted in pink fireweed (Yukon's Territorial flower), and Arctic Terns are just some of the abundant natural history waiting to be experienced by our guests. From drifting

through Quiet Canyon in the vast Spruce Forests of the Interior to paddling by giant icebergs and walking on glaciers or being dwarfed by 15,600 foot Mt. Fairweather while standing at sea level, or witnessing history in action as a giant tributary deposits sediment on an expansive flower covered gravel bar, the geologic phenomena awaiting is nothing short of breath taking.

This trip has been described numerous times as one of the top 10 river trips in the world.

All permits, specialized river equipment, camping gear, food, beverages, transfers, and guides are included. Just show up and enjoy your time.





Terrace BC Day Trips

Skeena Valley Expeditions has acquired tenure from Lands and Water BC to operate day trips in the vicinity of Terrace BC. 7 local rivers including the Skeena, Kitsumkalum, Copper, Clore, Kitimat, Wedeene, and Exstew Rivers will provide a plethora of options ranging from benign flat-water trips offering a spectacular family or scenery oriented experience to some the most

exciting and high quality whitewater in the country.

We will begin by perfecting the trip on two or three of these rivers then as time passes, we will grow into the others.

A second, most exciting aspect of the business is the opportunity to provide a rafting float trip to the guests coming off the cruise ships in the Port of Prince Rupert. This is an exciting addition to the

economic development of the entire northwestern BC region and Skeena Valley Expeditions is proud to be offering an integral part of their program.



Babine River

The Babine River—aka “River of Grizzlies”—plays host to a steelhead and Pacific salmon-spawning season every year between July and late September. These magnificent fish run so thick in places; you might think it’s possible to walk across the river on their backs. And no one could be more pleased than the migratory population of over 100 grizzlies, often in plain view while fishing at ‘Grizzly Drop’. We’ll observe them while cruising past in a raft ... at a comfy distance. Please note: We cannot guarantee grizzly sightings—we are working on getting the bears under contract, but as yet we haven’t reached a deal. The Babine and Skeena rivers, however, are about more than just grizzlies.

They also offer access to pristine and remarkably diverse Canadian wilderness. Larger than many nations, the north by northwest region of British Columbia runs up the Pacific coast to the Yukon border—a vast landscape surrounded by snow-peaked mountains and thousands of lakes. It is also home to the Gitksan people whose villages and towering cedar totems we see while traveling the Babine & Skeena. In 1999 the Babine River corridor was designated a ‘Class A’ Provincial Park to protect the wildlife and wilderness experience within the park. Skeena Valley Expeditions is one of very few companies allowed to run trips through this very special wilderness area. Skeena Val-

ley Expeditions will be running a 5 day trip starting and finishing in the charming little northern BC town of Smithers. For those with a little extra time, Smithers is an anglers paradise with many rivers of world class status in the immediate vicinity.

Same as on the Tatshenshini, all permits, specialized river equipment, camping gear, food, beverages, transfers, and guides are included. Just show up and enjoy your time.

“And no one could be more pleased than the migratory population of over 100 grizzlies”





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Pursuing the Spirit of Adventure

A Skeena Valley Expeditions trip is high class whether you join us for half a day or 10 days.

On all trips you are provided with:

- All specialized clothing such as wetsuits, helmets, lifejackets, and neoprene booties.
- Professional and certified guides
- All necessary transportation and logistics
- All the appropriate permits and licenses
- Lunch, snacks and drinks

On expedition trips you are also provided with:

- All food and beverages for the trip
- High quality camping equipment

Star guide: Jupiter MacDonald

Jupiter, named after the Greek God, grew up in the outdoor oriented city of Nelson BC. A proud ski bum, he soon began pursuing a full time career in world traveling. He has spent the better part of his winters for nearly the past decade in far off and exotic locations such as Australia, Thailand, Nepal, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Spain, Mexico, you name a place, chances are he's been there.

He also started guiding river rafts at the age of 19. Since then he has guided day trips on the

Toby, Elaho, Squamish, Chekamus, Kicking-horse and others as well as remote expeditions throughout BC on the Tatshenshini, Babine and Chilko Rivers.

His job on the water led naturally to a passion for river kayaking. In addition to enjoying the pure simplicity of playing on a wave and just plain going out for a good time he paddles at a very high level and has accomplished some of the province's most challenging, technical and remote multi-day self supported river trips.

Jupiter is not only skilled at what he does but also quite possibly the most goofy, fun loving, and knowledgeable individual you have ever met.

I can't wait for you to experience spending a day in Jupiter's raft. Whether it is on a scenic float discussing far flung worldly customs and local First Nations traditions or descending some of the most thrilling whitewater rapids I am confident you will have one of the best days of your life.

