

A scenic photograph of a rugged coastline. In the foreground, there are dark, rocky outcrops and dense evergreen trees. The middle ground shows a calm, blue sea meeting the shore. In the background, a hazy, overcast sky meets the horizon over the water.

# Haida Gwaii

Canada's Galapagos

Haida Gwaii is an archipelago of 150-some islands off the west coast of BC. The region has a rich ecological and cultural history, with archeological evidence of human habitation that dates back 14,000 years.

Students will have the opportunity to explore the outdoors and experience Haida culture and history, all while learning from local indigenous leaders and change makers. The program begins on Graham Island, with a few days spent exploring Queen Charlotte, Skidegate, Naikoon Provincial Park and Masset, before heading to Moresby Island to tour Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site.

## Potential Themes

- Sustainability, Biodiversity & the Environment
- Animal Conservation & Protection
- Indigenous History, Culture & Self-Determination
- Outdoor Education, Ecotourism & Adventure

## Sample Itinerary

- DAY 1** Fly into Sandspit and take the ferry to Queen Charlotte on Graham Island before visiting the Haida Gwaii Museum & Heritage Centre at Ky Llnagaay.
- DAY 2** Learn about regional wildlife and ecosystem conservation efforts from the Laskeek Bay Conservation Society and enjoy a traditional Haida meal.
- DAY 3** Venture to the northern coast to take a tour of Old Masset and visit the Ed Jones Haida museum to learn about Haida art, carvings, and totem poles.
- DAY 4** Explore Naikoon Provincial Park; hike the iconic Tow Hill, venture across the Blow Hole boardwalk, and discover the remains of the Pesuta Shipwreck.
- DAY 5** Travel to Moresby and take a guided tour through K'unna Llnagaay, an ancient Haida village site, to learn about the region's history from Haida Watchmen.
- DAY 6** Spend the day exploring Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and the National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, only accessible by boat or seaplane.
- DAY 7** Take the opportunity to experience sheltered sandy bays, old-growth forest, and unique wildlife in and around Haida Heritage Site.
- DAY 8** Head back to Sandspit to fly out of Haida Gwaii and back to Vancouver.

## Program Details

LENGTH

6-10 days

INTENDED GRADES

Grade 6-12

PROGRAM SIZE

12-23 students