



long beach lodge  
RESORT

## 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN TOFINO & UCLUELET

*Just breathing the air, walking a pristine beach and listening to the surf are reasons enough to come to Tofino. However, here is a rundown of some of the great things taking place on the wild west coast over the next 12 months.*

### **JANUARY – FEBRUARY**

#### **Storm Watching Season**

Watch the breathtaking beauty and power of a winter storm. The wild west coast is GREEN year round and coastal breezes keep the temperatures mild. Mild west coast weather becomes punctuated with wildly powerful storms. Rainbows, surf pounded beaches, mists and storm clouds alternate in beauty

### **MARCH**

#### **Pacific Rim Whale Festival**

Gray Whales have heralded the coming of spring along the west coast of Vancouver Island for thousands of years. Grays travel close to shore, pausing to feed in shallow waters, providing excellent viewing opportunities from strategic shore locations or get aboard a whale watching tour. As well as the unique opportunity to see these huge marine mammals, the festival offers educational programs in Pacific Rim National Park, and fun events in the communities of Ucluelet and Tofino designed to involve the whole family. Ocean scientists and whale researcher present educational programs about whale migration, biology and the conservation efforts that have brought the Gray whales back from the edge of extinction.

### **APRIL - MAY**

#### **Great Gray Whale Migration**

Thousands of Gray whales pass the west coast of Vancouver Island during their annual spring migration. Best time of year to see groups of whales with young. Later in the year resident whales are typically seen. The best way to see whales is on a nature tour.

#### **The Month of the Flying Geese**

In the Nuu-Chah-Nulth language, April is aptly known as the Month of the Flying Geese. In addition to the thousands of Gray Whales that migrate past our shores in April, tens of thousands of birds and wildfowl reach the West Coast in their annual migration.

#### **Annual Shorebird Festival**

Tens of thousands of birds and wildfowl reach the West Coast in their annual migration. Ucluelet/Tofino is directly in the path of the Pacific Flyway, and is an ideal location for nature watchers. Overhead large flocks of birds fill the sky. The estuaries along Barkley Sound and Clayoquot Sound are resting places for the flocks. [www.tofinores.com](http://www.tofinores.com)

## **APRIL - MAY**

### **Mind Over Mountain Adventure Race**

Exciting 40 km race to be held in Ucluelet. Includes navigating a course via kayaks, then mountain bikes, and finishing with running on the Wild Pacific Trail.

### **George Fraser Day & Heritage Fair**

Celebrate West Coast pioneer George Fraser, and the beautiful rhododendrons that are our heritage. Enjoy a stroll beginning on Fraser Lane to view heritage gardens/property where George Fraser lived and planted his heaven on earth! Also see the Heritage Fair held on the same weekend. Historical Displays; Old Time Fiddlers; Silent Auction; Raffles; Door Prizes; Refreshments.

## **JUNE**

### **Ninth Annual Edge to Edge Marathon, Half Marathon and Relay - June 8, 2008**

The Edge to Edge Marathon has been selected by Attractions Canada as the #1 Athletic Attraction in all of Canada! Run the official marathon distance between Tofino and Ucluelet. Take on the challenge of the West Coast! Starting at the small village of Tofino, you will run a slightly undulating scenic course through Pacific Rim National Park, finishing in the District of Ucluelet - a perfect Marathon distance through a perfectly "natural" course. Register early. Contact the Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce for details (250-726-4641).

### **Long Beach Golf Tournaments**

June 24th Cops for Cancer, June 17th, West Coast Shootout. Everyone welcome. Sign up at the golf course or call 250-725-3332.

### **Aboriginal Day - June 21, 2008**

Aboriginal Day celebrations at Pacific Rim National Park Reserve will include native performances of dance and music.

### **Van Isle 360 (Yacht Race)**

The Van Isle 360 is an international yacht race circumnavigating Vancouver Island. International attention will be focused on ten communities on Vancouver Island who have been designated host ports. As the host port on the longest portion of the race, the layover in Ucluelet has scheduled activities for both racer and spectators. The start/finish line for this leg of the race can be viewed from Amphitrite Point Lighthouse in Ucluelet or from spectator boats. This will be a spectacular event you won't want to miss. [vanisle360.com](http://vanisle360.com)

### **Summer Surf Jam**

BC Surfing Association competition will attract national and international surfers to Cox Bay Tofino. DJs, BBQ and food. Free for spectators. This highly anticipated event is a two-day judged surf contest and music jam. A visually exciting and crowd pleasing event attracts fans and spectators from across BC and the rest of the country as well as competitive surfers from California, Hawaii, Australia, Brazil and around the world surfing head-to-head against Canada's best.

### **Tofino Food & Wine Festival – June 6-8, 2008**

The festival will showcase BC's fine wines and Vancouver Island food accompanied by Tofino's finest culinary talent, featuring live music and local artists. At the unique Tofino Botanica Gardens. [www.tofinofoodandwinefestival.com](http://www.tofinofoodandwinefestival.com)

## **JULY – AUGUST**

### **Canada Day - July 1, 2007**

The West Coast's annual celebration of Canada's Birthday. Festivities include Colour Guard Parade, children's crafts and activities, sand castle competition, beach volleyball, free family BBQ and more! Sponsored by Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, activities will take place on Wickaninnish Beach and in Ucluelet.

### **Pacific Rim Music Festival**

Sound waves on the Edge presented by Pacific Rim Arts Society. This Summer Festival presents one week of chamber music and some multi-cultural concerts featuring national and international performers. Venues in Ucluelet, Tofino, and the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. There are nightly concerts throughout the festival. Tickets are moderately priced through local outlets. [www.pacificrimsummerfestival.ca](http://www.pacificrimsummerfestival.ca)

### **Ukee Days**

A weekend of fun for the whole family! The fun starts with a Salmon Barbecue on the Village Green followed by an entertainment event. Events include a parade, Lions Club pancake breakfast, Logger Sports, Ukee Days Dance, kids games, face painting, live entertainment, exhibitors, contests, prizes and much more. The highlight of Sunday activities is a great lineup of live music.

## **SEPTEMBER**

### **Lantern Festival – Rainforest Interpretive Centre Event**

Come join the enchantment! Build a paper lantern at the Rainforest Interpretive Centre then bring your creation to the festival at the Tofino Botanical Gardens for a walk through magical forest paths and reflecting pools. Performers add music from the shadows. Not to be missed!

### **Arts in the Garden**

A weekend of art, poetry and food in the artistic setting of the Tofino Botanical Gardens.

### **Annual West Coast Forest Day**

'Forest Treasures' will celebrate all aspects of the forest. Exhibits will include conservation, ecosystem restoration, cultural and artistic venues, environmental protection, sustainable forestry, recreation and more.

### **Tofino Botanical Gardens hosts a celebration of the Arts**

in the beautiful setting of a unique garden. Regular garden admission: \$10 adults, \$6 students, children 12 and under are FREE  
Garden members are FREE.

### **Terry Fox Run**

Third Sunday in September, held on the Wild Pacific Trail.

### **West Coast Maritime Festival**

### **Grey Whales begin their southern migration**

## **OCTOBER**

### **Fabulous Fungi – Fall Mushroom Picking Season**

In Clayoquot Sound during the fall (typically September, October and early November), the mushrooms emerge. Mushroom hunting can be an enjoyable pastime and greatly enhance your appreciation for the wonders of the rainforest. Remember the importance of fungi and be sure to walk softly of the earth.

### **Annual Return of the Salmon**

Witness the impressive sight of hundreds of wild Pacific salmon swimming up small creeks to spawn. Near Long Beach, the Kootowis-Staghorn Interpretive Drive offers excellent interpretive signs and drive-to viewing areas ideal for observing this impressive migration. The presence of so many fish also draws bald eagles, bears seagulls very intent on feasting.

## **NOVEMBER**

### **Christmas Craft Fair**

Ucluelet Recreation Hall - Local artists and artisans create an impressive array of gift items. A popular event sponsored by the Pacific Rim Arts Society for locals and visitors alike.

### **Clayoquot Oyster Festival**

The Clayoquot Oyster Festival is a hodge-podge of oysters, literature, cooking, island music, fine wines and of course the ultra-competitive oyster slurping contest where festival guests (and a few ringers) vie for titles in a number of categories. Local chefs from ten restaurants will each take 200 Clayoquot Oysters, supplied by the festival committee, and whip up their best oyster appetizer to compete for the People's Choice Award. Throughout the festival's main evening, the appetizers are intermingled with music, wine tasting, cooking demo's and storytelling. On-the-water tours of Clayoquot oyster growing operations will be offered during the day (weather and seas permitting).

### **Winter Storm Season begins in earnest!**

Regular high winds off the west coast this fall are delighting storm-watchers with really impressive waves.

## **DECEMBER**

### **Santa Parade**

A Fun event for kids of any age! A longstanding Tofino tradition.

### **Sail Past**

Harbour Lights Festival in Ucluelet or Sail Past & Caroling in Tofino. Celebrate the Christmas season West Coast style! Carol ship, sail past, craft fair and Christmas by the Sea - a decorating and lighting show.

### **Christmas on the Beach & New Year's Eve on the Beach**

For more detailed information regarding events in Tofino and Ucluelet contact:

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