



NATURE, AS CREATED

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CARIBOO CHILCOTIN COAST

CHILKO | NEMIAH | TASEKO | TSUNIAH | YOHETTA



SUPER, NATURAL
BRITISH COLUMBIA®

XENI GWET'IN CARETAKER AREA

British Columbia, Canada



Welcome to our home. This spectacular region contains some of the purest waters in the world. The Chilko and Taseko rivers run powerful and free through the Xenigwet'in (pronounced 'honey gwe-teen') Caretaker Area. Since ancient times, the Xenigwet'in people have lived here in strength and harmony. Past, present and future generations of the Xenigwet'in people walk this land, fish its waters and harvest through the seasons. Although an ancient culture, the Xenigwet'in people are also a contemporary one, and wish to share the beauty of their land with visitors.

Please join us and stay in our community through one of several lodge operators who have signed a protocol with us to protect the land while building a sustainable future together. Witness the majesty of the Coast Mountains reflecting in crystal waters as you are guided to our many lakes and rivers. Feel the wind as you summit an alpine ridge on horseback surrounded by wildflowers. Take a guide and fish our waters, photograph grizzly bears feeding on salmon in the fall, seek out the wild horses – this is our life every day. Come and share our connection to the land.

◀ *the* **LEGEND** of **TS'IL?OS**

Long ago Ts'il?os was once a man. Ts'il?os had a wife named ?Eniyud. They lived in the mountains south of Konni Lake. Even though they had six children together, they had trouble getting along with one another.

One day, Ts'il?os and ?Eniyud got into an argument. ?Eniyud put her baby on Ts'il?os' lap. ?Eniyud left the baby and two children with Ts'il?os and took the other three children away. Ts'il?o turned into a rock along with the children above Xenig Lake. You can still see the baby in his lap



Don Olesink



Ts'il?os watches over you – there is no need for worry here. Learn the legend of Ts'il?os during a visit to Xeni's Traditional Village in Nemiah Valley. Walk ancient trails with Xeni guides and share stories while dinner cooks over an open fire. Here, traditional ways of hunting, cooking and gathering are also contemporary ways. Learn how to prepare and dry fish, how to roast meat underground. Learn of ancient cures found in botanicals and experience the Medicinal Lodge which offers smudging, sweats and other treatments. Overnight lodging in the Earth Lodge can also be arranged.

There is nothing contrived about a visit to the Xeni Gwet'in – to truly experience the Xeni way of life, visit during one of several annual Xeni Gwet'in festivals and events which welcome respectful visitors. Try the two-day Nemiah Rodeo held the first weekend in August featuring the celebrated Mountain Race; the Brittany Gathering held late in May in which communities gather to share their culture, traditions and stories; or the mid-summer Elders Gathering in which elders and youth join together to teach and learn from each other.



SHARE *our* CULTURE

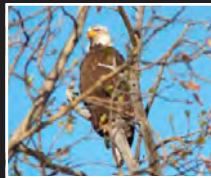
Geoff Moore

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SHARE our NATURE

David Jacobsen



Everywhere you look, the scenery takes your breath away. From verdant valleys and snow capped mountains to sparkling lakes and rushing rivers, this place will steal your heart. Whatever your passion you will find pristine wilderness, outdoor adventure, peace and tranquillity here in the land of the Xeni Gwet'in.

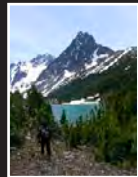
Time stands still here. There are no crowds. Accompanied by a fully trained guide, you'll likely have the river or the trail to yourself as you share what matters most in life with family and friends. Xeni approved Lodges offer all-inclusive packages featuring wildlife viewing, river or lake fishing, trail riding, alpine hiking, photography and more. Chances are you'll hear the legends and lore of this beautiful land as you sit around the campfire. Or, if nature is the perfect backdrop for you to unwind, you can relax, immerse yourself in 360° of magnificent wilderness while relaxing on the deck or soaking in the hot tub.





SHARE *the* ADVENTURE

Is your adventurous spirit calling you? Telling you to find a rare and special place, a place to be outdoors in nature and to find joy in the simple things? Challenge yourself on a one week horse pack trip and sleep under the stars. Wake up to birdsong and hike through a meadow of alpine wildflowers. Photograph wildlife in one of the few remaining intact ecosystems on the planet. Fight for a prize rainbow trout or monster bull trout. Search for the wild horses of Xeni. All this awaits you in an unpretentious environment with knowledgeable guides, great food, comfortable accommodations and the company of family and friends.





the WILD HORSES



Your visit to the Xeni Gwet'in Caretaker Area offers a rare glimpse into a land where people have trod lightly, in harmony with nature and in keeping with Xeni tradition. This is a land where you will be both humbled and inspired by massive mountain ranges, high alpine lakes and mighty carnivores; where a sense of freedom reigns and you meet each day with excitement and wonder.

This is the land of wild horses. Said to be descendants of the horses brought by the Spanish Conquistadors, these wild horses are central to the Xeni culture and life. There is no better symbol of the freedom of this land. In June, 2002, the ?Eligesi Qiyus Wild Horse Preserve Declaration was signed proclaiming the traditional relationship between the Xeni and the wild horses and prohibiting the disruption of their habitat. Sightings of these horses are rare, with your best chance offered by engaging the services of a local Xeni guide. Staff at the local Visitor Centre in Nemiah Valley will assist you.

Nancy Oppermann

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TASEKO LAKE LODGE

www.tasekolake.com

P.O. Box 4232 , Williams Lake B.C. V2G 2V3

Cell: 250 305-6368

Lodge: 604 484-5174

Email: sig@tasekolake.com



TSUNIAH LAKE LODGE

www.tsuniahlakelodge.com

P.O. Box 4685, Williams Lake, B. C. V2G 2V7

Lodge: 250 394-4122

Phone: 250 392-5612 Fax: 250 392-4959

Toll Free: 1-888-TSUNIAH (878-6424)

Email: tsuniah@laketown.net



TSYLOS PARK LODGE

www.tsylos.com

P.O. Box 2560, Williams Lake, B.C. V2G 4P2

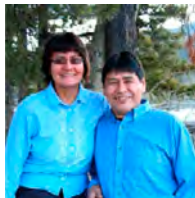
Phone: 250 483-4368

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DALICHEQOX B & B

Jim & Dinah Lulua

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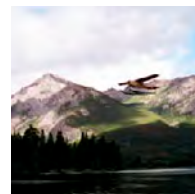
SNOWY MOUNTAIN OUTFIT

www.snowymountainoutfit.com

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Phone: 250-394-7052

Email: snowymountca@yahoo.ca



YOHETTA WILDERNESS

www.yohettawilderness.com

RR#5, P.O. Box 62,

Tibbles Site,

Quesnel, B.C. V2J 3H9

Toll Free: 1-877-482-8569

Email: mike@tatlowmtn.com

ETIQUETTE

Visitors are welcome to pursue traditional activities that are in keeping with the wilderness character of the area. Guided non-mechanized access to the backcountry is allowed.

Please respect the privacy of our communities and do not wander off road, across residential properties or disturb old homesteads and equipment.

Ancient ruins, artifacts, historic remains and fossils are fragile and irreplaceable, please tread lightly. Artifacts should not be disturbed or removed as they belong to the Xeni Gwet'in and must be left in their place.

Ceremonies are sacred events; please dress and act respectfully. Applause is typically not appropriate as these are religious ceremonies, not performances. If in doubt, follow the lead of other community members.

Mechanized and off-road vehicles are restricted to designated roads only – prior to visiting please consult with Xeni Gwet'in or check the website for updated information. Please do not cut trails or clear roads and leave gates as you find them.

Backcountry hiking and backpacking should only use established routes and local guides.

Please contact us for guides or join one of the several lodges in the area who have signed a Protocol with us to protect the land for everyone to enjoy while building a sustainable future together.



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 Generous Photo Contributors: Jonaki Bhattacharyya, David Williams, Gary Fleghan, Patrice Halley, Vance Hanna, David Jacobsen, Larry McLean, Geoff Moore, Don Olesiuk, Nancy Oppermann, Tsyos Park Lodge

GETTING HERE

The remote and difficult overland access to Xeni Gwet'in territory kept European influence at bay and protected the culture of the Xeni and the pristine wilderness. Your journey will be much easier - it's only a one hour flight from Vancouver, British Columbia by private charter available through most Xeni approved Lodges.

Lodges book quickly so reservations are recommended before leaving home. Visit www.xeni.ca for more details and links to Xeni approved Lodges.



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