

General Travel and Accommodation Information

12th International Congress of Ethnobiology Tofino, Canada (May 9-14, 2010)

Version 2; Last updated July 15, 2009

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**Please note that while we have endeavored to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information possible, the final responsibility for your travel arrangements and customs and immigration requirements lies with you. Please do not hesitate to ask questions!

**We strongly recommend you make your accommodation arrangements as soon as possible. To fino is a small town yet a big tourism destination. Booking your accommodation at "the last minute" will be frustrating and potentially expensive. It is better to book immediately and risk losing a small deposit (<\$50) than to wait and find out all your preferred options are gone.

This document will be updated periodically. Please check the website often.

This version: June 25, 2009

Traveling to Canada

Passport and visas

If you are a US citizen traveling to Canada from the US by air, you will need a passport. If you are travelling by land and returning to the US before June 1, 2009, you may not need a passport. For more information, please visit the US passport website here http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html. If you are a permanent resident of the U.S. you will need to bring your U.S. Permanent Resident Card ('green card').

If you are traveling from another country, you may need a visa. For a list of countries whose citizens require visas in order to visit Canada, click here http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp

If you need a visa to enter Canada please apply as soon as possible. Canada's visa offices are very busy and it can take several weeks to obtain a visa. Contact the nearest Canadian visa office, Embassy, or Consulate http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/offices/index.asp

If you have to transit through another country on your way to Canada, for example through the United Kingdom or the US, you may require a visa from that country as well. If you are traveling from Central or South America, your flight will very likely transit through the US and you will likely require a C-I visa. This is a non-immigrant visa for an alien directly in transit through the US. Please visit the US Immigration website at http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/visa_I750.html. For a list of US embassies, click here http://www.usembassy.gov/

PLEASE ALLOW PLENTY OF TIME TO OBTAIN PASSPORTS AND/OR VISAS.

Paid registrants can obtain a **Letter of Invitation** by e-mailing <u>ice2010tofino.com</u> and providing your name, citizenship, address and passport number.

If you are planning to enter Canada with a child without both parents, you need to bring special documentation with you. For more detailed information, click here http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/media/facts-faits/061-eng.html

Arriving in Canada: Important Border Entry Information

Canada Border Services officers are at the border to ensure that people entering Canada respect Canadian laws. They are authorized to interview persons seeking entry into Canada to determine admissibility. Their goal is to facilitate the entry of legitimate travelers as quickly as possible.

Travel documents: Border services officers will want to know where you are from and the purpose of your visit. Answer the questions asked. Answer truthfully. Be ready to have the following travel documents ready to show to the officer:

- 1) Passport
- 2) A Customs declaration form will be given to complete on the plane before landing in Canada. You can review the card at: http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/E/pbg/cf/e311/README.html. For the Customs declaration form in additional languages please refer to: http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/E/pbg/cf/ce311/README.html
- 3) Canadian visa if one required. (Countries Requiring Visas For Visiting Canada)
- 4) Show any letter of invitation you may have received from the congress, especially if you have a Scholarship Award letter.
- 5). If you have shipped goods, it is helpful to carry a copy of the Customs recognition letter provided to you.

Travelers from any country may be questioned about their health when entering Canada if they are obviously very ill. In rare cases a medical exam may be ordered.

SWINE FLU UPDATE

-- June 25, 2009

Please be aware that if you have a fever and a cough, you are required by law to report this to a Canadian Border Service Officer during the customs process.

If you enter Canada feeling well but you develop a fever and a cough over the first 7 days after you arrive in Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada recommends that you seek medical attention as soon as possible. It is very important to immediately inform a health care provider of your recent travel history, along with your symptoms.

Not all travelers with these symptoms have developed Human Swine Influenza. It is nevertheless important to ensure that if you do experience these symptoms, you avoid contact with people until you have been assessed by a health care provider. These actions are very important in the efforts to reduce the spread of Human Swine Influenza.

You can obtain up-to-date health alert information from the Public Health Agency of Canada website at www.fightflu.ca.

Criminal Background

Anyone from any country outside of Canada may not be permitted to enter Canada if they have a criminal conviction, including a conviction for driving while impaired. Find out more about inadmissibility here http://www.cic.gc.ca/ENGLISH/visit/inadmissibility.asp

Traveling with Children

Border entry officials are always looking for missing children and may ask questions about children traveling with you.

• All adults should carry identification for the children under the age of 16 traveling with them, regardless of the children's age.

- One parent traveling alone with their children should have a letter from the other parent indicating consent.
- Parents who share custody of their children should carry copies of the legal custody documents.
- Identification such as a birth certificate, baptismal certificate, passport, or immigration document for the children. If none of these are available, get a letter from your doctor or lawyer (or from the hospital where the children were born) stating that you are the children's parent or guardian,.
- Any adult who is not a parent or guardian should have written permission to supervise
 the child from the parent or guardian, as well as the child's identification. This
 permission letter should contain addresses and telephone numbers where the parent or
 guardian can be reached.
- If you are coming with your child and are the only guardian, bring documentation showing the child has no other guardians. For example: a birth certificate that does not identify the father.

Customs (Entry)

Food subject to limits, restrictions or not permitted: Perishable items, vegetables, meat and dairy products. For more details please consult the Canadian Food Inspection Agency here http://www.beaware.gc.ca/english/toce.shtml

Gifts: Each visitor may bring multiple gifts worth up to CDN\$60 duty free each, as long as they are not alcohol or tobacco or business goods.

Alcohol and Tobacco: there are limits on the amount of Alcohol and Tobacco visitors can bring before they are taxed. Details are available here http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/pub/rc4161-eng.html

Endangered Species

Canada has signed an international agreement, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), to protect wild animals and plants and their parts or derivatives from over-exploitation in international trade. However, goods that are controlled under CITES (except for live animals), which are part of a visitor or a seasonal resident's clothing or accessories, or are contained in their personal baggage, and that they have owned and possessed in their ordinary country of residence, may be exempted from a CITES permit. An individual must not sell or dispose of the CITES-controlled item within 90 days after the date on which the exemption is claimed.

For more information, contact: CITES Office, Canadian Wildlife Service Environment Canada, Ottawa ON KIA 0H3

Telephone: (819) 997-1840; Fax: (819) 953-6283; http://www.cites.ec.gc.ca

Medications

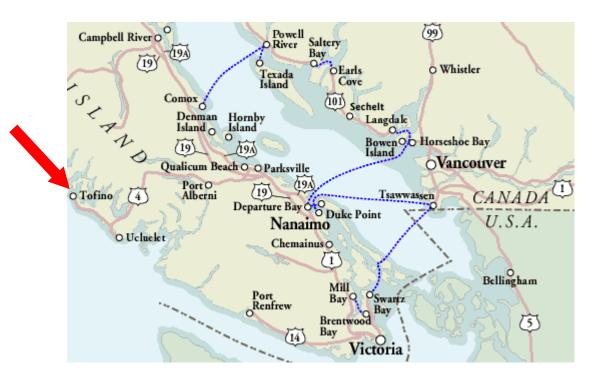
Be sure to bring enough of your medications to last until you return home. Bring your medications in your carry-on bag that you will take onto the plane with you. Do NOT pack your medications in your luggage! If your luggage is lost you will not have your medications. You are permitted to bring into Canada enough medication, as prescribed for your personal use, to last while you are here, to a maximum of three months. The drugs should be in the original packaging, with a label that specifies what they are and that they are being used under prescription. If this is not possible, carry a copy of the prescription or a letter from your doctor.

Please note: if your travel to Canada includes stops in other countries en route, including the United States, you are subject to the rules of those countries, which may be different from the laws of Canada.

For detailed information on Customs regulations visit: http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca

Traveling to Tofino

Tofino is located on the west coast of Vancouver Island, in British Columbia, Canada. Most Congress participants will fly in to Vancouver International Airport (YVR), on the British Columbia mainland. YVR is located in Richmond, a suburb of Vancouver approximate 30 minutes south of downtown Vancouver.



To get to Tofino from the Vancouver International Airport, you must cross the Strait of

Georgia by ferry or air to the city of Nanaimo, then travel by vehicle (bus or car) across Vancouver Island to Tofino on the west coast of the Island.

You can also book a flight into the Nanaimo Regional Airport (30 minutes south of downtown Nanaimo; you will connect in Vancouver) or take a float plane to downtown Nanaimo.

We strongly advise that you make travel arrangements from Vancouver to Tofino in advance of your arrival.

We may arrange a charter bus to transport congress participants from Vancouver Airport to Tofino, with pick-ups at the airport and downtown Vancouver in the early morning Sunday May 9th and arriving in Tofino at 4 pm. More information will be posted on the congress website.

This table will help you approximate your travel costs and times. All prices are provided in Canadian dollars and are current as of May 2009. Prices will be updated as new information becomes available.

Easy-to-Read Table of Travel Information

Travel	Total Travel	Approximate	For more	Notes
	Time	Cost	information	
From Vancouver International Airport to downtown Vancouver	30 minutes	\$13.75 via YVR Airporter	~\$40 via taxi www.yvrairporter.com	If you stay in a hotel near the airport, they likely have a free shuttle service.
Via bus from downtown Vancouver to Tofino	5-6 hours	\$75 one-way, includes price of ferry	www.greyhound.ca	Does not include travel time or cost from airport to downtown Vancouver bus terminal.
Via rental car from Vancouver International Airport to Tofino	5-6 hours	For May 2009, one week rental of economy sized car is ~\$300 on expedia.ca	Book cars through www.expedia.ca or www.hotwire.com	Price given does not include extra insurance or gas. Gasoline varies between \$0.80 and \$1.00 per litre as of April 2009, with cost of gas to Tofino ~\$30 for economy car.
Via float plane to Nanaimo then bus to Tofino	4-5 hours	Float plane \$75 one-way, Bus \$40 one-way	www.harbourair.com for floatplanes, www.tofinobus.com for bus	Float plane has a maximum 23 kg / 50 lbs luggage allowance. this is STRICTLY adhered to.
Via plane from Vancouver International Airport (YVR) to Tofino Airport (YAZ).	I hour flight plus terminal transfer time	\$150 one-way	www.flyorcaair.com	Flights are occasionally cancelled due to fog or rain, in which case you are transported by bus. One flight daily. Does not inclue trnasport from Tofino Airport to downtown Tofino (approx 20 minutes).

On the Road - Driving to Tofino

To reach Tofino by car from the British Columbia mainland, you'll first need to take the ferry from Horseshoe Bay, or Tsawwassen, to Nanaimo. The Horseshoe Bay terminal is north of Vancouver and this ferry route takes just under 2 hours while the Tsawwassen terminal is south of the city, closer to the USA border and it takes just a little over 2 hours. The Horseshoe Bay ferry arrives at the Departure Bay terminal in Nanaimo while the Tsawwassen ferry arrives at the Duke Point terminal just about 15 minutes south of the city.

Once in Nanaimo: Travel north on Highway 19 for 43 km (26 miles). Take Exit 60 onto Highway 4 (also known as the Pacific Rim Highway) heading west for 156 km (97 miles). You will drive through spectacular Cathedral Grove, historic Port Alberni (drive straight downhill and turn right at the junction), and on the winding road around Sproat and Kennedy Lakes. Travel westward until you come to the junction between Tofino and Ucluelet. Turn right at the Tofino/Ucluelet junction and drive north towards Tofino for 28 km (17 miles). Your overall travel time from Nanaimo to Tofino will range between 2.5 and 3 hours.

Scroll down for information about Accommodation.

Accommodation in Tofino

We have selected several accommodation partners located on beautiful Mackenzie Beach. We have also designated the Clayoquot Field Station just for for undergraduate and graduate students. You can find brief descriptions below, and links to websites for further information. Congress participants are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements. A credit card is required for all accommodation reservations in Tofino. Tofino is a well-known international destination, so YOU MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS BEFORE ARRIVING IN TOFINO.

Please contact us if you are experiencing difficulty or require assistance in Spanish. For help understanding North American terms, please scroll down to the end of this page.

Por favor, contáctenos para ayuda en español.



Accommodation: I – Middle Beach Lodge; 2 – Bella Pacific Campground; 3 – Mackenzie Beach Resort (ISE Board); 4 – Tin Wis (Main Congress Venue); 5 – Ocean Village Resort; 6 – Crystal Cove Resort; 7 – Clayoquot Field Station and Tofino Botanical Gardens (Congress Host). Walking time for entire length of beach = 15 minutes. Walking time from Clayoquot Field Station to Tin Wis = 15 minutes. *Map adapted from www.tofinotime.com*

Tin Wis Resort (#4 on map)

All 85 rooms at the Tin Wis Resort are being held for Congress participants but YOU MUST BOOK by January 31st 2010.

Tin Win Resort is the primary locale of the Congress. Part of the internationally known Best

Western family of hotels, the Tin Wis Resort has 85 ocean-front rooms in a wide range of room types. All rooms feature private bathrooms. Most rooms, called "Queen/Queens" feature two queen sized beds. The "King/Double" has a king sized bed and a double hide-a-bed. The "King/Kitchenette" has a king sized bed and kitchenette. The "Queen/Loft" has a queen bed and a double bed. Most rooms have televisions, radios and telephones. Free wireless or hard-wired internet is available. The Calm Waters Restaurant, located in the main building, provides breakfast and dinner, and the resort has a sauna, hot tub and fitness facilities.

Rooms with two beds sleep a maximum of 4 people.

2009 rates range from \$145 to \$185 per night, plus 15% tax (based on single or double occupancy).

There is a \$25.00 per person additional charge. Maximum 4 persons per room.

Visit <u>www.tinwisresort.com</u> for more information. Phone +1 (250) 725-4445
Toll Free in Canada and USA 1-800-661-9995
info@tinwis.com

Clayoquot Field Station (#7 on map)

All beds at the Clayoquot Field Station are being held for Congress participants.

Dormitory-style accommodation at the Clayoquot Field Station has been reserved for undergraduate and graduate students only from May 7-14, 2010. If you are not a student but you wish to extend your stay in Tofino after the congress, we would be happy to accommodate you before May 7 or after May 14.

Each bunk room has four oversize bunk beds, two desks, lockable closets and a window looking out over the rainforest or Tofino Botanical Gardens. The facility also features a library, classroom, full kitchen, coin-operated laundry, free wireless internet, an internet station, and plenty of storage. Shared bathrooms (separate womens and mens, each with showers, sinks, toilets).

The dorm bunk cost will be about \$30 per person per night, plus 5% tax. There is one queen room (queen sized bed) and one suite (queen bed + single bed + private bathroom) also available for students.

Visit <u>www.tbgf.org/cfs</u> for more information.

Please contact Eileen Floody at eileen@tbgf.org or +1 (250) 725-1220 to make a reservation.

Middle Beach Lodge (#1 on map)

A large block of rooms at the Middle Beach Lodge is being held for Congress participants but YOU MUST BOOK by January 31st 2010. Please quote the Ethnobiology Congress to received preferred rates.

Located a 5-10 minute walk north of the main congress site at Tin Wis Resort (via the beach), the Middle Beach Lodge is comprised of two main lodges with hotel rooms, and 22 cabins. One of the two lodges (called "At the Beach") is adult-only, and the second lodge (called "At the Headlands") is the main lodge site and contains the dining room. Both lodges have beautiful cozy lounges with dramatic stone fireplaces, planked hardwood floors, antique pine furnishings, Persian carpets and large comfortable couches and chairs. Most rooms have a single queen-sized bed, but some have two queen beds. All rooms have a private bathroom. All cabins have kitchenettes. Most rooms have televisions, radios and telephones. Free wireless internet is available.

Rooms with one bed sleep a maximum of 2 people. Rooms with two beds sleep a maximum of 4 people.

Congress guaranteed room rates are \$90 per night 15% tax, for cottages \$150 per night + 15% tax. You must register by January 31, 2010.

Visit <u>www.middlebeach.com</u> for more information. Phone +I (250) 725-2900
Toll Free in Canada and USA I-866-725-2900
lodge@middlebeach.com

Mackenzie Beach Resort (#3 on map)

The Mackenzie Beach Resort has been reserved for the ISE Board and those travelling on bursaries. Rooms may come available and we will keep this space updated. Please contact the Congress Organizer at ice2010tofino@gmail.com with questions.

Mackenzie Beach Campground (#3) or Bella Pacifica Campground (#2 on map)

A note from the Congress Organizers: To camp in Tofino means you must bring ALL your own camping gear with you, or a vehicle you can sleep in (e.g., recreational vehicle, camper van, etc). We strongly recommend that only experienced campers consider this option.

Mackenzie Beach and Bella Pacifica have a variety of camping and RV sites, each with their own picnic table and firepit. For your convenience the on-site facilities include 3 clean and spacious washroom buildings with flush toilets and pay showers. There are also laundry facilities, public pay phones and both ice and firewood are available for purchase at the Campground Office. The family focus of this campground enables Bella Pacifica to offer a quiet time from 10:00pm to 8:00am and management lives on site in case of any emergencies. All dogs are welcome but must be kept on a leash at all times.

Camping at Mackenzie Beach ~\$35/night plus tax. Please contact the Congress Organizer at ice2010tofino@gmail.com.

Bella Pacifica: Cost ~\$40-45 per site per night, plus 5% tax.

Visit http://www.bellapacifica.com/ for more information. Phone +1 (250) 725-3400 campground@bellapacific.com

Ocean Village Resort (# 5 on map)

Cabins are not reserved for Congress participants; we recommend you book as early as possible.

Located a 5 minute walk south of the main congress site at Tin Wis Resort (via the beach), the Ocean Village Resort is a collection of studio, one bedroom, and two bedroom cottages, each equipped with kitchens and bathrooms. These cottages are ideal for families and for groups of friends and colleagues who wish to stay together. Because each cottage has a kitchenette, you can prepare your own food. Cottages are NOT equipped with televisions, radios or telephones. Free wireless internet is available. The resort has a heated, indoor salt-water pool.

Single cottages

One bedroom cottages have a queen sized bed as well as a queen sized sofa bed in the living area and sleep a maximum of 4 people.

Two bedroom cottages have a queen sized bed, two twin beds, a queen sized sofa bed in the living area and sleep a maximum of 6 people.

Duplex cottages (A duplex is larger cottage split into two separate units, each with its own entry door, kitchen and bathroom).

Ocean Village Beach Resort has two duplex cottages, divided into top floor or ground level units.

Both duplex cottages have a queen sized bed and two small day beds (single beds) in the living room and sleep a maximum of four people.

2009 rates for these cottages are \$150 - \$190 per cottage per night plus 15% tax (regardless of how many people occupy a cottage). 2010 information will be posted as soon as it is available.

Visit <u>www.oceanvillageresort.com</u> for more information. Phone +I (250) 725-3755 <u>info@oceanvillageresort.com</u>

Crystal Cove Beach Resort (#6 on map)

Cabins are not reserved for Congress participants; we recommend you book as early as possible.

Located a 5 minute walk south of the main congress site at Tin Wis Resort (via the beach), the Crystal Cove Beach Resort has 34 modern log cabins from two bedroom and den to studio style to accommodate getaways for families or couples. They feature full kitchens, a TV with VCR (some with DVD), a CD player, barbeque, and some have Jacuzzi tubs or outdoor hot tubs. For those cozy rainy days the cabins feature a wood burning fireplace, wood stove, or gas fireplace. The well-appointed kitchens have everything right down to saran wrap and aluminum

foil. The fridge and stove are full size, all cabins have microwaves, and the two bedroom and den cabins have a dishwasher. You will find books, magazines, and a good selection of movies at the office, as well as a computer with internet access and wireless, free of charge. Firewood is complimentary throughout your stay.

Log cabins sleep a maximum of 4 people to 8 people (6 adults). Visit http://www.crystalcovebeachresort.com/logcabins.htm to examine various bed configurations.

2009 rates range from \$185 to \$300 per night, plus 15% tax. This is based on double occupancy. There is a \$20.00 per person additional charge.

Visit <u>www.crystalcovebeachresort.com</u> for more information. Phone +1 (250) 725-4219 crystalc@alberni.net

Other Accommodation

There are numerous bed and breakfasts, vacation rental homes, and other lodges, resorts, and motels in Tofino. Please visit www.tourismtofino.com for information.

More affordable accommodation is also provided at the Whalers on the Point Guest House (a hostel), at www.tofinohostel.com), the Tofino Trek Inn (www.tofinotrekinn.com) and information about camping is available www.tofinocamping.com. Of these camping sites, Bella Pacific, Mackenzie Beach Resort, and Crystal Cove are all located on Mackenzie Beach.

Questions to keep in mind when booking accommodation...

- I. How far is it to Tin Wis Resort (distance)? (So you have an idea of how long it might take to walk to the resort if you do not have a car.)
- 2. Does your establishment provide cooking facilities?
- 3. What is the maximum number of people that can stay here?
- 4. What is your cancellation policy?

North American Accommodation and Food Service Terms

Bed and Breakfast - an establishment that offers accommodation and breakfast but usually does not offer other meals. Typically, bed and breakfasts are private homes with fewer than 3 bedrooms available for commercial use. View some Tofino bed and breakfasts here: http://www.tofino-bc.com/accommodations/b-and-b-tofino-society.php.

Hotel, Resort, Inn, Lodge - these are all terms that typically (but not always) describe larger establishments (dozens of rooms) and often include other services such as a restaurant, swimming pool, or spa. Not all hotels, resorts, inns and lodges in Tofino have their own restaurant.

Motel - a smaller establishment that usually does not have any extra services such as a

restaurant or swimming pool.

Vacation Rental or Short Term Rental - a private home that can be rented out in its entirety (e.g., the owners do not also live in the house). Always includes full kitchen and bathroom and other amenites such as TV, wireless internet etc.

Condo, or condominium - a privately owned apartment.

Studio - refers to a room or condo that has no bedroom, i.e., the bed is in the living room. Includes private bathroom.

Single Occupancy - refers to a single person staying in a room, alone.

Double Occupancy - refers to two people staying in a room together. The room may have one bed or two beds. If you required two beds for two people, ensure you clarify this with the accommodation provider!

King Bed - a very large bed; 76×80 inches (or 198×203 cm); sleeps two.

Queen Bed - the standard sized bed in most North American hotels and houses; 60×80 inches (or 153×203 cm); sleeps two.

Double or Full Bed - a smaller bed designed for two people; 54×75 inches (137 x 190 cm); sleeps two.

Single Bed or Twin Bed - smallest bed size; 39 x 75 inches (or 99 x 190 cm); sleeps one.

Hide-a-bed, or Pull Out Sofa - a sofa that converts to a bed. Unless otherwise stated, most sofa beds are double, NOT queen sized.

Hotel Sales Tax (HST) - a tax that is applied to most accommodation, equaling 10% of the price. Typically NOT included in quoted rates.

Goods and Services Tax (GST) - a general tax that is applied to most things and service in Canada (except unprepared foods) of 5% of the value of the item.

Tip, or gratuity - money that is given for a service, usually for restaurant service. In Canada, servers (waiters/waitresses) typically receive about 15% on the after-tax total, although anywhere from 10-20% is within the average range. Most restaurants in Tofino apply an automatic gratuity when 6 or more people eat together in a restaurant.

Kitchenette - small kitchen or area for preparing food, often just a part of a room instead of a separate room.