

# The Totem Circle Tour

*Yellowhead to Prince George: 724 km / 450 miles*

*Yellowhead to McBride: 926 km / 575 miles*

*Recommend 5–7 days*

Tour highlights include Vancouver Island, discovering the Inside Passage and driving the surprising Hwy #16 (a.k.a. the Yellowhead) from Prince Rupert to Prince George. There are friendly communities, great attractions and incredible scenery. Break the journey, plan days for some circle tours along Hwy #16. It is easy to spend an extra day in many places.

From Vancouver Island depart Port Hardy. Set sail with BC Ferries along the majestic “Inside Passage” a sixteen hour daylight cruise. The coastline reveals dramatic water falls, wildlife and remote villages. Arrive in Prince Rupert late in the evening. This vibrant city has much to offer; cultural, historical and outdoor activities. It is easy to spend a few days here; go flight-seeing, to museums and try fishing or whale watching to get out on the water. A must see is the North Pacific Cannery in sunny Port Edward. Depart on Hwy #16 which winds east along the Skeena River, marvel at the beauty of the river. Arrive in friendly Terrace, where local history and First Nations culture are presented in area attractions. Spend the day in and around Terrace. Take a side-trip to remarkable Kitimat.

At the Hazeltons, find yourself immersed in aboriginal culture. A must see is ‘Ksan Historical Village. Stop at Moricetown to watch the Aboriginal Fishermen. Smithers is set against Hudson Bay Mountain. Numerous outdoor activities beckon

visitors year-round to this picturesque alpine setting. You can raft, hike, bike, fish and more. Visit historic Telkwa the one time regional centre. Houston is steelhead country the 53m “world’s largest fly-fishing rod” at the VIC is proof! Burns Lake is the northern gateway to Tweedsmuir Provincial Park. Enjoy the towns of Fraser Lake and Fort Fraser on the way to charming Vanderhoof. A side-trip to historic Fort St. James is a must do, take Hwy #27 to the “Fort”, established as a fur trading post back in 1806. Return to Hwy #16. Drive through the rolling hills and forests arriving in BC’s northern capital Prince George. Spend a few days enjoying this city’s character and culture.

From Prince George, choose to head North, East or South ...

Go north and link up to other circle tours described on this map. To the east, enjoy the view of river valleys and forests through a sparsely populated section of Northern BC. Near McBride, the region’s service centre, the scenery flattens out into a fertile valley. The Rockies are to the north and the Cariboo Mountains are to the south. The eastern border community of Tete Jaune Cache leads into the Rockies at Mount Robson. Go south to complete the Totem Circle Tour on Hwy #97 on the Goldrush Trail enjoy the history, culture and communities, it follows the Fraser River to Vancouver.