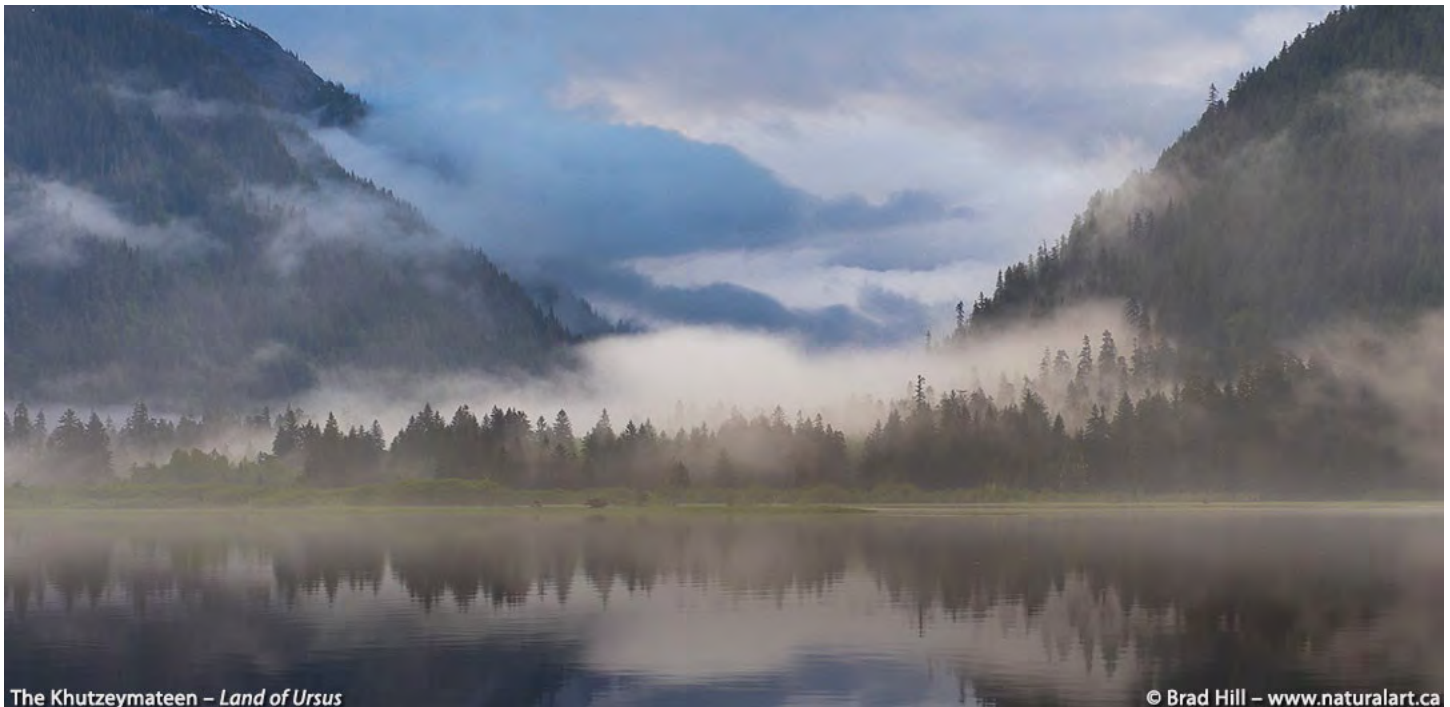


# Grizzlies of the Kutzeymateen



Instructional Photo Tour 2011



The Khutzeymateen – Land of Ursus

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## Overview

The *Grizzlies of the Khutzeymateen Instructional Photo Tour 2011* combines a full day of professional photography instruction with 5 full days of photographing grizzlies in the most breath-taking environment imaginable. You will be given the tools and the opportunity to capture breath-taking images of one of the world's most fascinating animals – the Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*).

**Photography Instruction.** The Instructional Photo Tour begins with a full day of photography instruction by award-winning nature photographer Brad Hill. The session will be of benefit to all levels of photographers – from enthusiastic novices through to seasoned professionals. We will discuss both the technical and creative aspects of wildlife photography as well as the detailed specifics of photographing grizzlies in the Khutzeymateen Inlet. While the instructional material will be agnostic with respect to camera brand and camera style (e.g., point & shoot vs. SLR) it will be assumed that most participants will be bringing digital SLR's. Film shooters are welcome and will benefit equally from the instructional material.

**The Khutzeymateen Grizzly Sanctuary.** The 39,000 hectare (96,000 acre) Khutzeymateen Grizzly Sanctuary is Canada's only grizzly bear sanctuary and is

located at the tip of a long, remote and pristine inlet on the northern coast of British Columbia. The sanctuary is closed to the public – only two licensed guides are allowed to lead very small groups into this majestic, globally unique ecosystem. The inlet is home to about 50 resident grizzlies, with many more passing through during the year. This remote piece of wilderness is set within one of the planet's few remaining completely intact temperate rainforests and offers a stunning, verdant backdrop to observe and photograph wild grizzlies as they interact with one another as they have for millennia. The bears themselves grant visitors with a very rare privilege: they allow humans fully and completely into their rich and behaviourally diverse daily lives. Be one of under 200 people – and far, far fewer photographers – annually gifted with the intimate experience of sharing the lives of the Grizzlies of the Khutzeymateen.

To explore and photograph this spectacular valley we will use a 71-foot sailboat (the *Ocean Light II*) as our base and then travel into the depths of the sanctuary using a motorized inflatable Zodiac®.

**2011 Dates:** This year's Instructional Photo Tour runs from May 23 through to May 30, 2011.

**2011 Price:** The cost of the trip is \$4250 CDN plus applicable taxes (please see important taxation

Jaws, Paws, & Claws...



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note immediately below). This includes virtually everything once you arrive in Prince Rupert, including accommodation in Prince Rupert and in the Khutzeymateen, professional and highly experienced bear guides, all meals, charter float plane flights to and from the Khutzeymateen, \$150 park fee, and more.

**IMPORTANT TAXATION NOTE:** Currently the only tax applicable to this photo tours is a 5% federal tax called the GST. As of July 1st, 2010 the Federal Gov't of Canada and the Province of British Columbia are combining the federal GST AND the provincial sales tax (currently not applicable to these tours) and calling it a Harmonized Sales Tax (or HST). Once this occurs it applies to nearly everything purchased in British Columbia. This will mean that the new HST will be the current GST of 5% plus the provincial sales tax of 7%, so it will be a 12% tax. However, anything purchased and paid in full BEFORE April 30, 2010 will have only the 5% GST applied to it. Thus, those choosing to pay for this photo tour in full before April 30, 2010 (and normally full payment isn't required until 90 days prior to the trip) will save 7% on the total trip price.

**Number of Participants:** The *Ocean Light II* can easily accommodate 9 guests while in the Khutzeymateen. However, I limit this trip to 6 participants for 3 reasons: 1) to maximize the attention each participant

receives; 2) to ensure that each participant has room to shoot (when in the Zodiac), and 3) to accommodate the photographic gear that each attendee will be bringing.

**Accommodation:** While in Prince Rupert (nights of May 23 and May 24) we will be staying at the Eagle Bluff Bed & Breakfast, an amazingly quaint historic building which sits on a dock along the shoreline. Please be aware that your rooms are already booked at the Eagle Bluff and you have no need to contact them in advance. However, if you are planning to arrive in Prince Rupert prior to May 23<sup>rd</sup> or stay there on May 30<sup>th</sup> or beyond and are looking for accommodation, please feel free to contact them.

Eagle Bluff Bed & Breakfast

Contact: Mary Allen

Phone: 250-627-4955 or 1-800-833-1550

Email: eaglebed@citytel.net

Address: 201 Cow Bay Road, Prince Rupert, BC

While in the Khutzeymateen we will be staying on the *Ocean Light II* sailboat, a 71-foot ketch.

Please be aware that you may be asked to share a room in the Eagle Bluff or on the *Ocean Light II*. This will be dependent on the make-up of the group (e.g., the gender of participants and the number of couples attending, etc.).

## Itinerary

### Day 1 – May 23, 2011.

Arrive in Prince Rupert. Make your way to the Eagle Bluff Bed & Breakfast to check in and stow your gear.



The Night Cap

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Taking the Plunge...



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You may check-in any time during the day. If you arrive early in the day feel free to sight-see or check the town out. Plan on assembling at the Eagle Bluff at 5 PM for an informal “meet & greet”. Shortly following this we will head out for dinner together.

**Day 2 – May 24, 2011.**

Photo instruction in Prince Rupert. After breakfast at the Eagle Bluff we will spend 3 to 4 hours in a classroom-style instructional session on modern photography, with special emphasis on the technical and creative aspects of wildlife photography. We will also discuss the nuances of bear photography as well as the specifics and etiquette of shooting from the close quarters of a reasonably small inflatable Zodiac®. The late afternoon activities are not firmly scheduled – options will include an extended Q&A session with participants, roaming the region to photograph Bald Eagles or, if the participants wish, some free time.

**Day 3 – May 25, 2011.**

Early breakfast at the B&B, followed by an early float-plane trip into the Khutzeymateen. Following meeting the crew and guides of the *Ocean Light II* and allocating the cabins, we will spend as much time as possible out in the Zodiac® photographing the bears. I will be giving informal photography instruction between

shooting sessions and in the evening. Note that it is very difficult to offer any instruction when actually working with the bears as we will have to remain as motionless and quiet as possible.

**Days 4 through 7 – May 26 through May 29, 2011.**

In the Khutzeymateen. Full days of bear photography and opportunistic photography instruction.

**Day 8 – May 30, 2011.**

Breakfast on the *Ocean Light II* followed by our return float-plane trip back to Prince Rupert. After which our adventure together ends!

For more information about this amazing trip contact Brad Hill at [seminars@naturalart.ca](mailto:seminars@naturalart.ca)



Adios...

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