

CHRISTMAS 2018

From our winter location in Comox BC, Jennie & I wish you a very



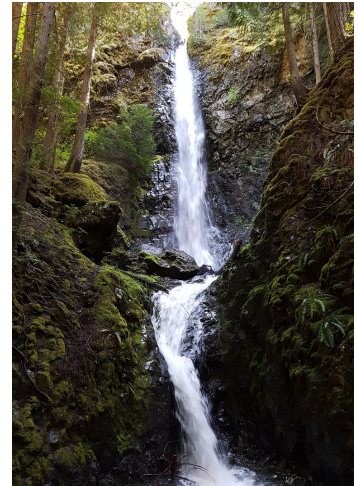
We spent last winter in Errington (east coast of Vancouver Island) where we were on the receiving end of 4 big dumps of snow. Needless to say, we were looking forward to starting our 2018 travels! Here are some of the highlights:

April and May

- Two trips to Victoria (southern tip of Vancouver Island) to meet friends and visit a few of the provincial parks.



- A trip to Campbell River to explore more of Strathcona Provincial Park. We stayed at Elk Falls Provincial Park and took day trips including one to pretty Lupin Falls.



June, July, and August

A 7-week business/pleasure trip through BC and Alberta.

- 100 Mile House and Clearwater to see our long-time friends Colin & Mary and Janet & Dave.



- Revelstoke where I rode *The Pipe Mountain Coaster*. Wow!



- Through the scenic Rocky Mountains to Calgary where we called on colleges, went sight-seeing, walked over the Peace Bridge, and met up with friends.



- Nanton where we toured the Bomber Command Museum of Canada.



- Fort McLeod where we visited Head-Smashed-in Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site (definitely well worth seeing) and participated in the July 1 festivities at Fort McLeod.



- Waterton Lakes National Park in south-western Alberta where we nearly froze our butts off despite being July... but the scenery was gorgeous.



- Dino immersion: First stop Dinosaur Provincial Park, the field station for the Royal Tyrrell Museum, and then on to the museum itself in Drumheller. It was incredible to walk among "the giants". Fortunately none of them moved!
- Edmonton. More college meetings but fun times

at the West Edmonton Mall. Quite the place: Hundreds of shops, an amusement park, an ice skating rink, and even a beach.



- Back to The Rockies. After staying in Hinton and visiting the local brewery, it was onward to Jasper and south down the Icefields Parkway (photos above & below). The views were spectacular! Definitely a must-see, but good weather essential.



- Kootenay National Park to Radium Hot Springs. At Dry Gulch Provincial Park, stinking hot: over 38°C, but Jen met a "golden" friend.
- Invermere. AC plug-in at last! Time to visit Kicking Horse Coffee plant and sample the Arrowhead Brewery offerings.



- Cranbrook. We planned to explore the Kootenay area of south-eastern BC, but the heat, increasing forest fires, and remote campgrounds (one way in/out) scuttled our plans - time to head west.
- Okanagan Valley and Forest Fires. In Penticton we couldn't see across Lake Okanagan. When I returned from my sales call, Jen said she was having trouble breathing, so we cancelled our planned visits to the northern Okanagan and high-tailed it back to Vancouver Island.

September

- After several weeks of on-again/off-again forest fire smoke on the Island, the air cleared. Our final trip was a week on the west coast at the Pacific Rim National Park. We visited Ucluelet and Tofino several times, walked the Wild Pacific Trail, found most of the coffee shops and craft breweries, and relaxed in the majestic rain forest. It's a beautiful area but isolated: Only one highway in/out and the weather can be brutal.



Fall and Winter

- Cape Lazo near Comox (eastern Vancouver Island). It's a beautiful spot close to the beach and all the community amenities in Comox and Courtenay. We are here until Spring when we head out for our 2019 touring season.

In the meantime, dear friends and family, we hope you have a wonderful Christmas and wish you all a very happy, healthy, and peaceful 2019.

Jennie & Doug

PS: Here's the beach at West Edmonton Mall.

