

for 4+ days guided sea kayaking in the Pacific West Coast Rainforest



A Batstar group watching a Humpback Whale dive in Barkley Sound.

BATSTAR

Adventure Tours

West Coast Sea Kayaking 2019 Gear List

Dress for the Environment

When you sea kayak on the West Coast, you can expect a mixture of sun, rain, and wind—sometimes all in the same day. The key to enjoying the experience is to clothe yourself in layers of synthetic fabrics or new technical wools that wick away perspiration and repel water. I've found that synthetic & Merino wool underwear works great, even when soaking wet. I love cotton and bring it in my dry bag for wearing only in camp and at night.

Rain Gear

I use a sea kayak paddling jacket on the water if it's rainy or windy. Guests only need a regular waterproof jacket. On land I wear a light weight Arc'Teryx jacket that compresses well and is highly breathable. You can use your waterproof/breathable jacket on the water and in camp. Waterproof/breathable rain pants also work well. Use a good rain hat with a wide brim so that the rain doesn't run down the back of your neck. If your rain hat is breathable, it also serves as a good sun hat. And don't forget your rubber boots—nothing beats rubber boots in the rain and in the intertidal zone.

Dry Bag System

At Batstar, you get two dry bags and an easy access bag to store all your belongings for the trip. Bring all the items in the gear list, and we'll help sort your items into the dry bags when you get here.

Your Gear List

The basic concept is to use synthetic or natural technical clothing—it really works. Cotton, once wet, is hard to dry in a marine environment. I tend to use Arc'Teryx, The North Face, Patagonia, Mountain Hardware, SUGOI, and Outdoor Research gear. Many fine companies make gear that works. Use what you like and what fits. Most brands now have a wool line.

Batstar Adventure Tours provides you with dry bags for your gear and all the sea kayaking, camping, and kitchen equipment.

If you have any sea kayak clothing or gear questions, e-mail me at blake@batstar.com. See you on the water! Blake

Clothes

- 3 underwear, light weight synthetic or wool
- 2 sports bra or synthetic bra personal preference
- 4 pair hiking socks (wool or synthetic)
- t-shirt, lightweight synthetic or wool
- underwear, light weight (top and bottoms)
- underwear, expedition weight (top and bottoms)
- 2 long-sleeve synthetic T or Zip neck shirt
- 2 fast drying hiking/paddling shorts
- fast drying pants (no jeans)
- bathing suit
- cotton t-shirt (in camp)
- cotton long-sleeve shirt (to sleep in)
- sweats or fleece (to sleep in)
- fleece jacket (200 or 300 weight)
- fleece or wool toque
- fleece side zip pants or tights (200 or 300)
- fleece vest (optional)
- waterproof hat with brim
- fleece gloves

- waterproof, breathable jacket
- waterproof, breathable pants

Footwear

- approach shoes or runners
- rubber boots (a must!)
- water sandals

Accessories

- 1-litre water bottle with carabiner to attach to the kayak
- a good book
- ball cap bandana
- binoculars camera
- headlamp / flashlight
- lighter
- pack towel and face towel
- small, collapsible umbrella
- sunscreen

Personal Items

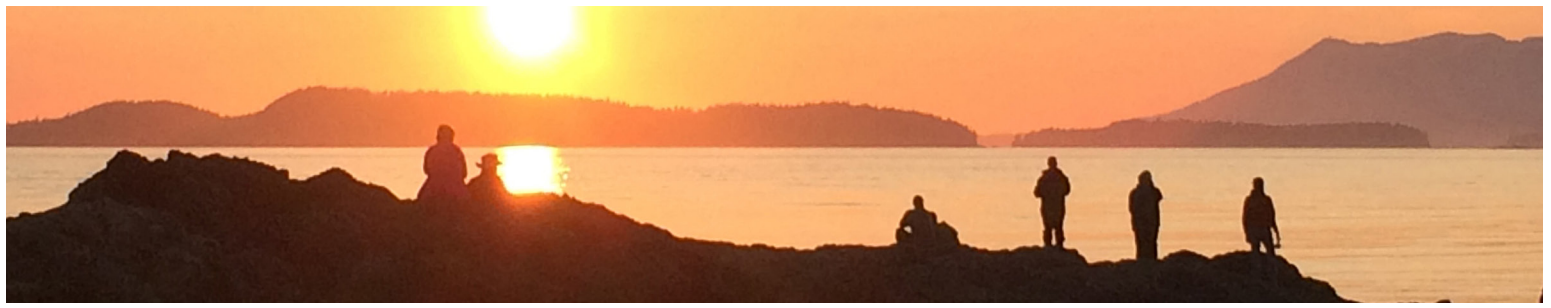
- extra glasses/contacts

- floating eyeglass strap
- pillow (no bigger than 12" x 9"; new pillow may also be purchased on arrival)
- prescriptions (twice as much as required in two separate containers)
- sunglasses (good quality, polarized is best)
- toilet kit (toothbrush, comb, etc.)
- ear plugs (some people snore)
- moist towlettes (small package)
- toilet paper is supplied by Batstar**

Please contact us if you have any questions about the gear list.

The first lesson in the outdoors is to dress for the environment. You can have a great time in any weather with the right gear. With your spray skirt, jacket and rain hat on, sea kayaking in the rain is a great experience.

Your attention to this gear list will take the edge off inclement weather.



Sunset over The Broken Group Islands. Kirby Point on Diana Island, The Deer Group Islands.

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West Coast Sea Kayaking 2019 Guest Packing Guide

Dear Batstar Guest,

Welcome!

You're going to experience sea kayaking on the West Coast, with the expected mixture of sun, rain, and wind—sometimes all in the same day. The gear list (sent to you earlier) identified all the equipment you were to bring. Now it's time to pack that gear so that all is ready in the morning.

Dry Bag System

Because the climate is so humid, all your gear must be packed in dry bags.

Batstar will provide each kayaker with three dry bags:

- Easy Access Gear Bag (20 litre) - Your day bag
- Dry Bag 1 (Kodiak® tapered 20 litre)
- Dry Bag 2 (Kodiak® 25 litre)

Both the Easy Access Gear Bag and Dry Bag 2 are placed in the kayak when kayaking and placed in your tent when kayaking is done for the day.

The Easy Access Gear Bag is used to store items for which you need quickly such as clothes for layering (wind pants, fleece) and accessories (sunscreen, hat). This bag is placed by your feet in the cockpit of the sea kayak. Dry Bag 2 is also placed in the sea kayak, but it is harder to access. Dry Bag 2 is used to store extra clothing and a change of clothes for severe changes in climate. Dry Bag 1 remains in your tent and is used to store the remainder of your gear.

There is also a Group Gear Bag used to store various items from all kayakers such as rubber boots. **Alcohol and rubber boots do not go in your personal gear bags.** Leave them by the van for your guides to pack.

The following checklist is a suggested method for packing your gear into the three dry bags. Please ask if you have any questions about packing your gear.

Clothes to wear on 1st Day

- t-shirt, lightweight synthetic or wool
- underwear, synthetic or wool
- fast drying hiking/paddling shorts
- sports bra (women)
- hiking socks (wool or synthetic)
- fast drying pants (no jeans)
- approach shoes or runners
- fleece jacket (200 or 300)
- sunglasses (good quality)
- ball cap

Easy Access Gear Bag

- waterproof hat with brim
- waterproof, breathable jacket
- prescriptions (twice as much as required in two separate containers)
- small, collapsible umbrella (optional)
- sunscreen
- wet wipes
- toilet paper (supplied)
- floating eyeglass strap
- camera
- binoculars
- 1-litre water bottle

Dry Bag 1

- Kodiak® tapered 20 Litre
- long-sleeve T or Zip Neck shirt
- underwear, light weight (top and bottoms)
- sports bra (women)
- cotton T-Shirt (in camp)
- hiking socks (wool or synthetic)
- fast drying hiking/paddling shorts
- bathing suit
- micro fleece towel
- cotton bandana - good for cleaning glasses
- multi-knife (Swiss Army / Leatherman, etc.)
- headlamp / flashlight

Note: Batstar believes in caring for the environment at all times. You should be aware that the bathrooms are organic and proper decomposition of human waste requires that no foreign objects are thrown into the toilets. Batstar will provide bags for the proper disposal of all feminine products.

Dry Bag 2

- Kodiak® 25 Litre
- cotton long-sleeve shirt (to sleep in)
- sweats (or fleece) to sleep in
- long-sleeve T or Zip neck shirt
- underwear, expedition weight (top and bottoms)
- sports bra (women)
- 2 pair hiking socks (wool or synthetic)
- fleece or wool toque
- fleece pants (or tights, 200 or 300 wt)
- waterproof, breathable pants
- fleece gloves
- fleece vest (optional)
- toilet kit (toothbrush, comb, etc.)
- extra glasses/contacts
- pillow (small synthetic) available from Batstar - \$20
- a good book

Group Gear Bag

- water sandals
- rubber boots
- alcohol