



# *Guide to* **STEWART**

## Overview

Situated across from Alaska's Misty Fiords National Park and at the end of the Portland Canal, Stewart, is a unique border town attracting tourists from every corner of the world. The community is surrounded by spectacular views of glaciers, fish bearing rivers, and a breathtaking view of the ocean. Stewart's dense coastal snowpack make it a prime snowmobiling, snowboarding, and heli-skiing location in Northern British Columbia. The town of Hyder, Alaska borders Stewart and is home to Tongass National Forest and a bear viewing platform where the bears feed on salmon as they travel upstream. Shopping and restaurants are within a minute walk from the ocean boardwalk and Stewart is a five minute drive from the bordering town of Hyder, Alaska, providing residents and visitors with an abundance of outdoor activities in a rural setting. If you are looking for a beautiful destination with fishing, wildlife, hiking and breathtaking scenery, Stewart welcomes you!

## History

Stewart was established in 1905 and named after the Stewart brothers who were early prospectors in the area. The community has a rich history in mining and exploration and stories of gold, furs and riches attracted pioneers from all over North America. The Premier Mine opened in the 1920s and was the largest gold mine in North America until its closure in 1952. Highway 37A was built in the 1950s with the Nass River Bridge built in 1972. These major accomplishments brought in the tourist industry as well as several logging operations. Development began on the Granduc Mine in the 1960s and it opened in 1970 which saw the population grow to 1500. After 9 years of producing copper ore, the mine shut down in 1982 due to low copper prices. Today, there are still several mineral exploration companies actively working in the area around Stewart. As Canada's most northerly ice free port, Stewart is ideally located to provide shipping services for mines in northern B.C. with up to a full day advantage to Asian markets over southern ports.

STEWART WELCOMES YOU



## Travelling to Stewart

**Air:** Connections to domestic and international airports are made easy with two airports offering domestic flights about a three and a half hour drive from Stewart, in Terrace and Smithers.

### Northwest Regional Airport

**Airlines:** Air Canada, West Jet, Central Mountain Air, Hawkair and Northern Thunderbird Air

**Flights:** Daily non-stop flights to Vancouver, Calgary, Kelowna, Prince George, Dease Lake.

### Smithers Regional Airport

**Airlines:** Air Canada, Central Mountain Air, and Northern Thunderbird Air

**Flights:** Regular flights to Vancouver, Kelowna, Prince George, and Dease Lake.

### Stewart Airport

Open to private & commercial small fixed & rotary wing aircraft between May and October.

**Highway:** The town is at the end of Highway 37A, which connects to Highway 37, at Meziadin Junction, 65km/40mi away. The nearest transportation hub for connecting to buses, trains, and flights is Terrace, 337km/204mi south.

## Proximity to other Communities

### Metro Area Distance

Prince George	698 km – 8.5 hours
Whitehorse	1,043 km – 14.5 hours
Kelowna	1,407 km – 15.5 hours
Edmonton	1,437 km – 16.5 hours
Vancouver	1,479 km – 17 hours
Calgary	1,482 km – 17.5 hours
Victoria	1,569 km – 19.5 hours
Seattle	1,591 km – 18 hours

## Population for Stewart *(2011 Census)*

Male: 260    Female: 235

## Top Employers

Ascot Resources – 16 employees

Billabong Road and Bridge Maintenance – 14 employees

King Edward Hotel – 14 employees

Northern Health – 12 employees

## Stewart Average Temperature

	High	Low
<b>Jan</b>	-1°C	-6°C
<b>April</b>	11°C	1°C
<b>July</b>	20°C	11°C
<b>Oct</b>	9°C	4°C

## Housing Affordability

The cost of buying a home in Stewart and surrounding area is well below the provincial average.

- **Small to medium sized home**  
\$75,000 - \$100,000
- **Large home on acreage**  
\$100,000 - \$200,000



## Education:

**Bear Valley School (K-12):** Bear Valley School is a K-12 school with approximately 70 students. The school has six full-time teachers, a librarian, support staff, two Student Support Assistants (SSA's), one First Nations Support Worker and one maintenance person. The school contains two separate libraries, a computer room, one mobile computer unit, one full size gym, a complete Industrial Education facility, a six stove Home Economics room, a Science Lab and playground facilities. The school also houses the First Steps early learning program. This program promotes parent/caregiver involvement in toddler and infant development. The First Steps program is completely free and provides snacks to the learners.

## Religious Centers and Churches

Charity Baptist Church  
St. Felix Catholic Church  
St. Mark's Church

## Healthcare:

**Stewart Health Centre:** The Health Centre provides primary health care, emergency room services, lab and imaging services, as well as mental health and addictions services. There is an Emergency Room in Stewart that provides acute care and ambulance services. It is open from 9:30 am – 5:00 pm for appointments. There is also on-call service available 24/7. Residents seek specialized care at the larger hospital, Mills Memorial in Terrace. BC Ambulance Service provides coverage to Stewart, including Air Ambulance services.





## Top 5 things to do in Stewart

Regardless of your age and interests, you'll find plenty to see and do in Stewart, BC.

1. Gaze at the glaciers on the drive in to Stewart, you will be able to see the Bear Glacier from Highway 37A. Another spectacular sight is the Salmon Glacier which is a 37km (23 mile) drive from Stewart and is known for being the largest road accessible glacier in the world.
2. Feeling adventurous? Hike one of the many trails in the area that range from easy to difficult such as the Sluice Box/ Barneys Gulch Trail. This short hike follows a historic railway bed leading out of Stewart, and then turns right, climbing up along the historic sluice box. When the gulch is reached, you can climb up to a waterfall or down to a viewpoint overlooking the town of Stewart and Portland Canal.
3. Visit some of Stewart's main street businesses then take a stroll on the estuary boardwalk. A scenic walk and a great spot for taking in views of the Portland Canal, observing wetland plants and birds, as well as the surrounding mountains.
4. The area around Stewart is known for its abundance of wildlife, specifically bears. The Fish Creek Bridge Wildlife Observation Site in Hyder, Alaska just a 10 minute drive from Stewart has become a world-class destination for viewing grizzly and black bears as they feed on salmon spawn runs from mid-July through early September.
5. Try fishing in the Portland Canal for salmon, halibut, and crab, Stewart has fishing charter businesses that operate in the summer. If you arrive with your boat, there is a public boat launch and docking facility for you to use. Some folks have been known to fish from their canoe. Meziadin Lake boasts some impressive sized Rainbow and Dolly Varden trout that are often caught by trolling and fly fishing. In the winter months, ice fishing for these trout becomes quite popular.





## WINTER ACTIVITIES

- Ice Hockey
- Figure Skating
- Cross Country Skiing
- Snow Shoeing
- Snowmobiling
- Curling
- Indoor Badminton
- Ocean Fishing
- Cabin Fever Days
- Heli-Skiing
- Ice Fishing at Meziadin Lake

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

- Hiking
- Driving Range
- Summer Youth Programs
- Fishing
- Baseball
- Hunting
- Tennis

## STEWART AMENITIES

- Post office
- Community hall
- Grocery Stores
- Hardware store
- Restaurants
- Hotels/Motels
- R.V. parks
- Ball field
- Trail systems
- Picnic sites
- Playgrounds
- Arena
- Museum
- Public library
- Tennis Courts

## TOP EVENTS

- Stewart Bear Arts Festival
- Canada Day Parade and Celebration
- Cultural Days
- Figure Skating Carnival
- Christmas Tree Lighting
- Stewart/International Days

1. **District of Stewart**  
PO Box 460  
705 Brightwell Street  
Stewart, BC V0T 1W0  
250-636-2251
2. **Stewart Chamber of Commerce**  
PO Box 306  
Stewart, BC V0T 1W0  
250-636-9224
3. **Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine**  
Suite 300, 4545 Lazelle Avenue  
Terrace, BC V8G 4E1  
250-615-6100
4. **Northern Health**  
Suite 600, 299 Victoria Street  
Prince George, BC V2L 5B8  
250-565-2649
5. **School District #82**  
3211 Kenney Street  
Terrace, BC V8G 3E9  
250-635-4931

## Quotes:

### Why do you like living in Stewart?

"Stewart is a safe and secure community to raise children"

"For the peace, tranquility and pristine beauty of nature at our back door"

