IT IS A DREAM COME TRUE.

The Haida’s cultural renaissance, led by internationally acclaimed Haida artists such as Bill Reid, Robert Davidson, Jim Hart, Reg Davidson, Guujaaw and Christian White began in the 1960s. Plans for the Haida Heritage Centre at Kaay Llnagaay began in 1994.

It has long been a Haida dream to share the islands’ culture, art and rich natural heritage with the rest of the world.

The Haida Heritage Centre first opened its doors to the general public in July of 2007 and has been open year-round. Since then visitors from all over the world have enjoyed this internationally significant showplace and the Centre has hosted numerous community and special events.

The $26 million Centre is a series of longhouses connected by interior walkways and fronted with six traditional totem poles representing each of six historic villages in the southern region of Haida Gwaii. The feeling is of a traditional Haida seaside village. This is a celebration of the living culture of the Haida people –

“Kaay Llnagaay is a place for the Haida voice to be heard. This Heritage Centre is our gift to the world.”

How to get here:
Air Canada Jazz has daily flights, year-round, from Vancouver International Airport to Sandspit.
www.aircanada.com
Pacific Coastal Airlines has frequent flights from Vancouver to Masset
www.pacific-coastal.com
BC Ferries operates year-round car ferry service from Prince Rupert, B.C.
www.bcferries.com

Where to stay: Visitors to Haida Gwaii are made welcome at various accommodation facilities, restaurants, visitor services and other tourist attractions. The saltwater fishing, kayaking, bird watching and hiking available in this unique natural environment all contribute to a life changing experience. For more information:
• Queen Charlotte Islands Visitor Centre www.qcinfo.ca
• Haida Gwaii Tourism Association www.haidagwaiitourism.ca

The Haida Heritage Centre is open year-round.
For information on current admission fees, hours of operation, special events, and meeting room rentals go to www.haidaheritagecentre.com for details.
Timeless Voices. Living Culture.

Enter the Spirit World.
The Haida have inhabited Haida Gwaii (“Islands of the People”), also known as the Queen Charlotte Islands, since the end of the last ice age. Here is an authentic living culture with a heritage dating back at least 12,000 years.
The Haida are world famous for their totem poles and monumental art, as well as their argillite carvings. The iconography of the art is bound to the sea, sky, land and spirit world. The theme is transformation, where the supernatural and the natural planes of existence come together. The Haida invite you to share their world.

Visiting the Haida Heritage Centre

“SAVING THINGS HOUSE”
The Haida Gwaii Museum
Impressive exhibits, artefacts and videos feature Haida history, contemporary culture and Haida Gwaii’s unique natural ecosystems. Highlights include totem poles from the Haida villages of Tanu and Skedans, contemporary Haida art, one of the world’s finest collections of argillite carvings, and a comprehensive plant and wildlife exhibit.

“TRADING HOUSE” Gift Shop
The gift shop promotes the work of local artists and artisans. On offer is a wide selection of Haida art, argillite carvings, silver and gold jewellery, pottery, paintings and fine books.

“PERFORMING HOUSE”
A house for many occasions, where you may have an opportunity to share in Haida traditional performances, song, dance and storytelling.

“EATING HOUSE”
Enjoy Haida-style cuisine as well as popular snacks and other light meals. Displays illustrate the gathering, preparation and preservation of traditional foods.

“CANOE HOUSE”
The Loo Taas (“wave eater”) canoe, carved by Bill Reid, can be viewed in the Canoe House. Learn the story of the Loo Taas through time and Bill Reid’s role in canoe-making, as well as the world journeys it has undertaken.

THE BILL REID TEACHING CENTRE
The educational component of the Centre includes classrooms for a wide variety of educational opportunities and studios for fine arts instruction.

Tours & Excursions
Visitors can tour the Centre with a Haida guide – check the website for details. Orientations and presentations for visitors making excursions to Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site are conducted at the Centre.

CARVING SHED
You may have an opportunity to witness Haida artists at work.