

The boats departed at 6:00AM from Pruth Bay today headed for the community of Ocean Falls. This now empty town of 40 full-time residents was in 1980 a city of several thousand, had a paper mill, a large electric power plant and was a regular stop for the Princess Cruise Line.

(← View from Wild Blue's pilothouse in Ward Channel)

(← Seagate threads her way through narrow channels)

Today we cruised 46 miles through narrow channels to open passages to visit this ghost town. The waters were just glassy – no wind, no waves and there are just a few other boats up here.



(← Wild Blue enjoys flat seas and calm winds on the way to Ocean Falls)

When things get calm, Pat goes gardening. Wild Blue sports an herb garden on the canvas-enclosed fly bridge. It's a great sunroom for growing plants.



(\leftarrow Pat the "constant gardener" tends her herb garden)

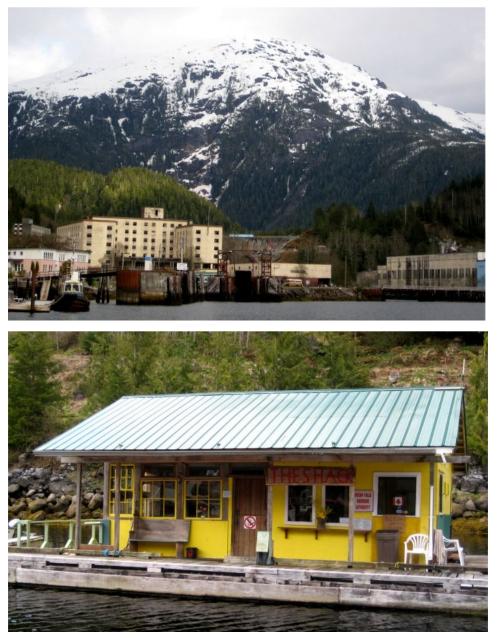




We arrived at Ocean Falls to temperatures in the 40s and an empty harbor at the foot of many snowcovered peaks. There was no cell service, just a cold phone booth. However two brand new PC systems with satellite internet service were located in the heated marina "shack". A great place for creating more Alaska Blogs!

(Willie traps two huge crabs 100 feet off the dock \rightarrow)





(\leftarrow Ocean Falls, population 40)

(← Ocean Falls Marina lounge known as the "shack", the source of Blogs #2 through #5)

Tomorrow we push onto the Bella Bella – Shearwater area, a short two hour cruise, to celebrate Walter Benedetti's 90th birthday and pick up fresh crew.