

SQUAMISH EAGLE WATCHING

With Reifel Bird Sanctuary and a Vancouver show
January 24, 2017 - 4 Days



a world to experience



Fares Per Person:

\$920 double/twin

\$1070 single

\$890 triple

- > Please add 5% GST.
- > **Early Bookers:** \$50 discount on first 10 seats; \$25 on next 6
- > **Experience Points:** Earn 23 points from this tour.
Redeem **23 points** if you book by **December 14.**



Includes

- Coach transportation for 4 days
- 3 nights hotel accommodation and taxes
- 2-hour eagle watching float on Squamish River
- Choice of Sea to Sky Gondola OR West Coast Railway Heritage Park
- George Reifel Bird Sanctuary
- Ticket to *The Audience* at Stanley Theatre
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **7 meals:** 2 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner

Marvel at viewing thousands of eagles

British Columbia has almost half of the world's bald eagle population and Squamish, just 45 minutes north of Vancouver, boasts the second highest bald eagle count in the world and one of the most densely populated gatherings in North America. Annually over 3,000 eagles flock to the Squamish and Cheakamus Rivers from Alaska and the Yukon, staying from mid-November to mid-February to feed on the abundance of spawned chum salmon. The largest gathering was 3,766 eagles, counted in January 1994 and coinciding with the four-year cycle of salmon spawning. Along with the eagle migration come the avid bird watchers and hikers who walk along the banks of the river, enamored with the powerful birds. One of the quietest and most interactive ways to view the eagles is from the river. Using expedition-class river rafts, we float quietly down the Squamish River wearing warm and cozy survival suits with boots.

Next day, we visit the George Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary, one of Vancouver's premier birding locations, which is home to thousands of birds each winter.

Early booking is recommended — this tour is limited to only 32 participants.

Kamloops > 250-374-0831
Kelowna > 250-762-3435
www.wellsgraytours.com

Penticton > 250-493-1255
Vernon > 250-545-9197
Toll Free > 800-667-9552



Itinerary

Tuesday, January 24:

Meals: L,D

We travel via the Coquihalla Highway, then follow the Sea-to-Sky Highway north to **Squamish** and stay two nights at the Sandman Hotel. Dinner is included at Howe Sound Brewing, one of British Columbia's original craft breweries.

Wednesday, January 25:

Meals: B,L

We take a two hour floating trip with Sunwolf Excursions on the Squamish River to enjoy terrific **viewing of the eagles** roosting in the tops of the cottonwood trees or feeding beside the river. A full survival suit with boots is provided for your comfort and safety. As you gently float down the river, Sunwolf's knowledgeable guides talk about the life cycle of the bald eagle and the salmon they depend on, along with the interesting flora and fauna. The float finishes at Sunwolf's cozy riverside lodge where lunch is served including a hearty bowl of pulled pork chili. If you have a bathing suit, enjoy the hot tub with a view of the Tantalus Range. This afternoon, there is a choice

of two Squamish attractions: **Sea to Sky Gondola** or **West Coast Railway Heritage Park**. Note: Half the group will do the float and attractions as described here, the other half will do the opposite.

Thursday, January 26:

Meals: B,L

We return to Vancouver and visit the **George Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary**, a premier birding area situated on one of the islands of the Fraser delta. It consists of 1,600 acres of tidal marshes, mud flats and grass habitats, and is the winter home to thousands of ducks, swans, loons, cormorants, grebes, raptors, lesser snow geese, and passerines. Lunch is in nearby Steveston. Our accommodation is at the Blue Horizon Hotel on Robson Street. Tonight, we go to the Stanley Theatre to see **The Audience**. During the six decades of Queen Elizabeth's reign, she has held a weekly audience with each of her 12 prime ministers.

Friday, January 27:

Meals: L

We journey home from Vancouver.

Options

Please choose one of these options when you book this tour.

Sea to Sky Gondola whisks you from sea level to the mountain top lodge in 8-person gondolas. From the decks, enjoy panoramic views of nearby peaks, Howe Sound and Squamish. Included in the tour fare.

West Coast Railway Heritage Park has the second largest collection of heritage railway rolling stock in Canada, now numbering over 90 pieces. The Royal Hudson steam locomotive is the most famous. The oldest units are the business car British Columbia (1890) and a rare Canadian Pacific Colonist sleeping car (1905). This option has a reduction of \$15 per person off the tour fare.

Tour Policies

Payments: A deposit of \$150 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due December 14, 2016.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$50 discount on first 10 seats and \$25 on next 6 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after December 14.

Cancellation Policy: Up to December 14, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From December 15 to December 27, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From December 28, 2016 to January 10, 2017, the cancellation charge is 70% of the tour fare. After January 10, there is no refund.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up until the time of departure.

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Photo Credit: Sunwolf Rafting



Activity Level: Light activity including short distances to walk and some steps. You must be able to get into and out of a large river raft with some assistance. There is walking in the Railway Heritage Park if you want to see all the exhibits and in the Reifel Sanctuary to see the birds. If you think you may have difficulty participating in Activity Level 1, Wells Gray Tours recommends that you bring a companion to assist you. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

E-points: This tour earns 23 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until December 14.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924