

CRUISING THE GULF ISLANDS

Includes 3 nights at Poets Cove Resort on Pender Island

June 4, 2017 - 6 Days



a world to experience



Fares Per Person:

\$1925 double/twin

\$2360 single



- > Please add 5% GST.
- > **Early Bookers:** \$100 discount on first 10 seats; \$50 on next 6
- > **BC Seniors (65 & over):** \$8 discount with BC Gold Care Card
- > **Experience Points:** Earn 47 points from this tour.
Redeem **47 points** if you book by **April 4**.

Includes

- Coach transportation for 6 days
- 5 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Ferry from Tsawwassen to Salt Spring Island
- Locally-guided tour of Salt Spring Island
- Van transportation to top of Mount Maxwell
- Ferry from Salt Spring Island to Pender Island
- 2 days cruising on *Pride of Victoria* around Gulf Islands and San Juan Islands
- Cruise on *Pride of Victoria* from Pender Island to Sidney
- Gratuities for Salt Spring guide, Maxwell driver, and crew on *Pride of Victoria*
- Ferry from Swartz Bay to Tsawwassen
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **12 meals:** 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners

Poets Cove Resort

Poets Cove is the premier luxury resort of the Gulf Islands. Nestled in Bedwell Harbour on South Pender Island, the resort has every amenity you could wish for. The main building has 22 beautifully-appointed bedrooms, all with ocean view and a deck. The Aurora Dining Room serves our dinners, and Syrens Bistro serves breakfasts, plus offers a pub atmosphere for casual evening get-togethers. Spa treatments are available in the Susurrus Spa and there is free time when you can enjoy this service. An outdoor pool and hot tub are tucked into the hillside above the lodge. This tour was first offered as Wells Gray Tours' spring 2010 Mystery Tour and everybody was impressed with the luxury of Poets Cove and the scenic cruises in the Gulf Islands. For 2017, enjoy two days of cruising in different parts of the Gulf Islands and San Juan Islands. The *Pride of Victoria* carries only 32 passengers for comfort, so with limited capacity on this tour, early booking is recommended.

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

Sunday, June 4:

Meals: L

We travel on the Coquihalla Highway to the Lower Mainland and stay overnight at the superb Fairmont Vancouver Airport Hotel.

Monday, June 5:

Meals: B,D

We board a ferry at Tsawwassen for a three-hour voyage into the **Gulf Islands**. Brief stops are made at Galiano, Mayne and Pender Islands, then we disembark at Long Harbour on **Salt Spring Island** about 1:30 pm. This afternoon, a locally-guided tour visits some highlights of Salt Spring Island, including **Ruckle Provincial Park** where you can stroll some pleasant trails along the ocean. We stay overnight at Harbour House Hotel in Ganges.

Tuesday, June 6:

Meals: B,D

This morning, we ride in vans up the winding road to the summit of **Mount Maxwell** and enjoy a panoramic view over Salt Spring Island, the other Gulf Islands and the Sansum Narrows. Back on the ferry, it is a 40-minute crossing from Salt Spring Island to North Pender Island. Then we drive to **Poets Cove Resort** on South Pender Island and settle into the luxurious rooms for the next three nights. Tonight, enjoy dinner in the Aurora Room overlooking the harbour, music in Syrens, a walk in the extensive grounds, or sitting on your deck watching the sunset across the water.

Wednesday, June 7:

Meals: B,L,D

We board the **Pride of Victoria** in the marina below the hotel and depart at 9 am into Bedwell Harbour and the Gulf Islands. The cruise route is flexible and depends on sightings of **Orca whales**

or other marine creatures. We may cross the border to the San Juan Islands (no passport needed, since we don't land). We may cruise along the rugged shore of **Spieden Island**, a privately-owned island with a collection of exotic animals. Tides permitting, we may go through the narrows between the Pender Islands. A gourmet lunch is served on board. The vessel has two decks with plenty of indoor and outdoor seating for excellent viewing, and it has a washroom. After about six hours of great scenery, we return to Poets Cove.

Thursday, June 8:

Meals: B,L,D

A five-hour cruise is offered with lunch at a beach or at a restaurant near a marina. We may explore the shorelines of **Saturna Island**, Galiano Island, Mayne Island, or Prevost Island. During free time at Poets Cove this afternoon, a soothing spa treatment is recommended (please check the website www.poetscove.com and choose your spa treatment, then call directly to book it).

Friday, June 9:

Meals: B

An extremely low tide this morning prevents our coach from boarding the ferry off Pender Island, so we leave Poets Cove on the *Pride of Victoria* and enjoy a two-hour cruise to Sidney. We meet our coach there, and take the 11 am ferry from Swartz Bay to Tsawwassen. We drive home in the afternoon.

Packing note: Please bring a carry-on bag for your overnight needs on June 8-9, as your suitcase will go on the coach to Sidney on June 8.

Tour Policies

Payments: A deposit of \$200 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due April 4, 2017.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$100 discount on first 10 seats and \$50 on next 6 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after April 4. Seniors (65 & over) receive \$8 discount extended by BC Ferries, so you must bring your BC Gold Care Card or the new Services Card.

Cancellation Policy: Up to April 4, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From April 5 to May 3, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From May 4 to May 17, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After May 17, there is no refund.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from ferries, the boat and other 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, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Activity Level: Light activity including short distances to walk and some steps, mostly getting on and off *Pride of Victoria*. The ramps to the boat docks can be steep at low tide. There is a short walk between Poets Cove Resort and the boat dock. There is a short walk from the coach parking to your room in the resort, or a golf cart can assist you. 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 47 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 April 4.

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