



WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience



The Experience Quarterly

Currently Available Tours – as of February 2018

250.590.7889

www.wellsgraytours.com

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V8W 1E1

GREETINGS FRIENDS

Happy New Year to you and your family! We thank you for your business and wish you all good health and prosperity for 2018. Your Wells Gray Tours team has been hard at work and have lots of exciting options close to home or tours that will take you across the globe!

E-Newsletter

Sign up for our monthly E-Newsletter to get access to newly released tours, travel tidbits and information on upcoming events. All we need is your contact information, so call your local office today or visit us online at www.wellsgraytours.com and click "Receive Tour & News Updates".

Facebook Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to Sybil Akre, winner of our 2017 Facebook Photo Contest, for her photo taken with Wally on the Cowboy Trails Tour. Sybil wins a \$300 travel voucher towards her next Wells Gray tour. Diana Smith wins a \$100 voucher for coming in 2nd for her photo on the White Pass Railway. Four people tied for 3rd place this year and win a \$50 voucher. Barb Donaldson, Jan Cornell, Sandy Hucman & Marian Gilbert. Thank you to everyone who participated and sent in their fabulous photos. Keep those cameras clicking! Our 2018 Photo Contest runs June to December. E-mail your photos to kerrie@wellsgraytours.com.



You're invited to our CLIENT APPRECIATION TEA



Spend a fun afternoon with Wells Gray Tours, reconnect with your fellow travellers and enjoy refreshments. It's our way of saying "Thank You" for your business.

VICTORIA

Wednesday, May 16th

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

St Andrews Presbyterian Church (In the Kirk Hall)

680 Courtenay St. Victoria

Please RSVP by April 27th so that we can anticipate attendance 250-590-7889

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Closed weekends and holidays

Full tour itineraries can be found online at www.wellsgraytours.com or at your local office.

- All tours include coach and/or air transportation, accommodation, knowledgeable tour director, and luggage handling, unless otherwise indicated.
- Tours depart from various pick up points in the Greater Victoria area. Depending on the individual tour routing and number of people in a location, additional pick up points may be available or added.
- GST is charged where applicable.
- Single and triple fares are available on most tours.
- Consumer Protection BC License: 65842

Cover photo: Coast to Coast by Train , itinerary on page 5.

Photo Credit: VIA Rail



ACTIVITY LEVELS



Wells Gray Tours offers three levels of activity on our tours. The symbol of one, two or three walkers appears on each tour brochure to indicate the activity level you can expect. A written description is also provided. In addition, on Activity Level 3 tours, every customer must sign a statement that he/she understands that the tour has lots of activity and is capable of handling it. Tours with Activity Level 1 or 2 have the following statement on the brochure:

If you are not able to participate in Activity Level 1 or 2, 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.

MYSTERY TOUR

September 26, 2018 — 9 days



\$4090 pp double; **\$4940** single



This is Wells Gray Tours' 56th Mystery Tour since 1985. The first Mystery Tour was only three days and travelled to Whistler. In the 33 years since then, Mystery Tours have generally been offered twice a year and have taken curious customers to destinations all over Canada, the USA, and even Iceland and Costa Rica. That is the intrigue of Mystery Tours! We never tell you where you will go or what you will see. You may be amazed when the coach pulls up beside a cruise ship, or you board a plane for an overseas flight, or you arrive at a unique hotel. Each day of the tour has surprises, as the mystery route is revealed only as we travel along from day to day. Wells Gray Tours has been a pioneer in offering Mystery Tours in British Columbia. Among the 800 or so tour operators in North America, only a handful offer multi-day mystery itineraries like ours. Please join us for Mystery Tour #56! Only one Mystery Tour will be offered in 2018. Some exciting surprises are waiting for you.

Here are the first two clues to the mystery route. Find a map and have fun guessing where we're going!

1. A Liberal Prime Minister and a Methodist Bishop are very busy in the 21st century, even though they died more than 40 years ago.
2. A luggage carrier visits the mother of Jesus on a river between two lakes.

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BHUTAN & INDIA SAFARI

October 23, 2018 — 24 days



\$12,150 pp double; **\$13,115** single
discounts up to \$300 pp



Get ready for a fairytale adventure like no other as we explore two unique areas of the Himalayan Mountains: Bhutan and Northern India. Bhutan is a small remote country located between China-ruled Tibet in the north and India to the south. Lonely Planet ranked Bhutan as the world's top destination of 2013 and CNN did the same in 2017. Bhutan is very protective of its natural and cultural richness. It is only in this century that Bhutan is cautiously opening up to the world, but tourism is very restricted and well-monitored. Individual travel is not permitted here — you must book through a local tour company and be with a guide for your entire visit. Bhutan has given the world the unique concept of GNH (Gross National Happiness), rating the country's success not in terms of monetary standing but by the sense of individual happiness quotient. The country is very deeply rooted in Buddhism, and most Buddhist practices and beliefs have stayed unchanged for centuries. Maroon-robed monks and nuns of all ages are a common sight in Bhutan. You will find a well-structured peaceful society where the people are warm and hospitable. India by contrast is a land of great dramas, an ancient, vast, over-populated, and stimulating land that has been described as a marvelously fluid functioning anarchy. Our focus is the eastern Himalayan region of India with its incredible wildlife sanctuary, Kaziranga National Park. Since we are so close, we have included time to experience the world wonder of the Taj Mahal and the chaotic flavours of the great city of Delhi. These destinations are about as foreign from Canada as you can get!

EXOTIC GETAWAYS!

NATURAL WONDERS OF ICELAND

June 2, 2018 — 18 days

\$11,795 pp double **\$14,350** single

A few seats left!



Iceland was settled by Nordic people in the ninth century and is a unique destination that offers unspoilt nature, breathtaking landscapes and vibrant culture. Everywhere you turn there are glaciers, waterfalls, lava fields, rainbows, streams and mountain ranges. The scenery is truly out of this world, and falls right into your lap. A sightseeing tour in Reykjavik includes the landmark Hallgrímskirkja Church, the harbour, the University, City Hall and Höfði House. Next is the Geysir area where we walk around the boiling hot springs and hissing fumaroles. A boat excursion takes us around the rocky islands of Breiðarfjörður viewing many nesting birds including puffins, kittiwakes, cormorants, fulmars and the white-tailed eagle. We also take a short ferry ride to Hrísey, to view plovers, arctic terns, and ptarmigans. Cars are rare here so our tour on the island is on a wagon pulled by a tractor. Iceland is known as the "Land of Ice and Fire" because of the numerous glaciers and volcanos that are scattered around the island. An awesome sight awaits us at Vatnajökull, the largest glacier in Europe at 8,300 square kilometres or covering about 8% of Iceland. Then, at the Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, we board an amphibious boat and sail among huge floating icebergs. A soothing swim in the Blue Lagoon is a must, as the water temperature averages 37–39 °C year round making it one of the most popular destinations in Iceland. We will also learn the secrets of the Icelandic horses during a Farm horse show and in Husavik view the minke on a whale watching excursion. This enchanting visit of Iceland's natural wonders will fill you with wonder and astonishment.

IRELAND

June 7, 2018 — 18 days

\$7135 pp double; **\$8665** single

A few seats left!



With the known history of Ireland dating back over 6,000 years, the past has truly paved the way for the island's buoyant present and future. The culture is vibrant, evolving and global, for there are an estimated 80 million people who claim Irish ancestry. The Irish are fond of folklore and traditions, particularly expressed through music and dance. In fact, the pub lies at the heart of the cultural life of Ireland, a place where friends gather to philosophize on life and politics, listen to stories and poems, enjoy traditional music, and share a feast. This is the 5th time that Wells Gray Tours has offered a tour to Ireland and our travellers have been thrilled with the experience. We have partnered again with Discover Ireland Tours, a company based in Cork that is committed to connecting groups to the real people of Ireland. Our tour circles the island and includes not only the major cities and sights of Ireland, such as Giant's Causeway, Ring of Kerry, and Blarney Castle, but also those personal experiences that put you in touch with the people, such as a horse-drawn cart trip through Muckross Park, tea & scones with a local family, and an overnight stay in a castle. So don your richest green, pocket your lucky shamrock, and go where Ireland takes you.

REMEMBRANCE DAY CENTENNIAL AT VIMY

November 1, 2018 — 14 days

\$8145 pp double; **\$8840** single

discounts up to \$300 pp



Vimy Ridge is famously known as the site of a heroic Canadian victory against a well-protected German defence network, a victory that was had through months of preparation and meticulous execution. The Canadian victories did not stop there though, with impressive battles at Hill 70, Passchendaele, and Amiens, among many other battles that led to the final armistice on November 11, 1918. However, this did not come without a cost. Close to 61,000 Canadians were killed during the war, and another 172,000 were wounded and this does not account for the many that came home suffering from 'shell shock' Remembrance Day began after the Great War to remember those of our armed forces who served in our defence and selflessly sacrificed themselves so their fellow Canadians could live better lives. The year 2018 will be 100 years since World War I ended. This tour has been developed as an educational experience of Canadian involvement in the Great War and includes attending the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial. Come and join us and we will remember them.

JOURNEY ACROSS CANADA BY TRAIN! TWO DEPARTURES!

All aboard for the adventure of a lifetime! The railway in Canada is an integral and essential foundation for the country. When the last spike was driven in the cross-country rail line on November 7, 1885 at Craigellachie, something truly magnificent had been accomplished: Canada had been united. The railway was written into the agreement of Confederation on that historic day when the Dominion of Canada was formed in 1867. The railway was a condition of entry into Confederation by British Columbia and it was the common thread that linked the vast spaces and diverse cultures of the grand new nation.

COAST TO COAST WESTBOUND BY TRAIN

May 15, 2018 — 19 days

\$9040 pp double **\$10,410** single
discounts up to \$300 pp



We start our journey by flying from Victoria to Halifax and spend three nights at the historic Westin Hotel. After exploring the sights and sounds of Halifax we board VIA Rail and head west. Locally-guided tours are included in Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg. A sure highlight on this trip will be riding in the luxury of Business Class from Montreal to Ottawa to Toronto. We stay two nights in Ottawa at the historic Lord Elgin Hotel and tour the Parliament Buildings, the House of Commons and the Senate chambers. We also visit the Canadian Museum of History and spend a night in Niagara.

At a glance...

Day 1-3	Halifax, Westin Hotel	Day 11	Niagara Falls, Hilton Hotel
Day 4	VIA Rail's <i>The Ocean</i>	Day 12-13	VIA Rail's <i>The Canadian</i>
Day 5-6	Montréal, Fairmont Queen Elizabeth	Day 14 -16	Winnipeg, Delta Hotel
Day 7-8	Ottawa, Lord Elgin Hotel	Day 17 -18	VIA Rail's <i>The Canadian</i>
Day 9-10	Toronto, Fairmont Royal York Hotel		

COAST TO COAST EASTBOUND BY TRAIN

May 27, 2018 — 15 days

\$7570 pp double **\$8440** single
discounts up to \$150 pp



On this tour we begin our epic adventure aboard Via Rail's *The Canadian* in Vancouver and travel through the Fraser Valley, pass soaring Mount Robson and into Jasper National Park. We continue travelling east through the towering giants of the Rocky Mountains and through the sea of grass in the vast prairies. We experience the unique mix of cultures in Winnipeg and Montréal and the Scottish influence in the Maritimes. We end our journey with three nights at the Cambridge Suites Hotel in the center of Halifax and fly home from Halifax via Toronto to Victoria. Locally-guided tours are included in Winnipeg, Toronto, Montréal and Halifax.

At a glance...

Day 1-2	VIA Rail's <i>The Canadian</i>	Day 9-10	Montréal, Delta Hotel
Day 3-4	Winnipeg, Delta Winnipeg Hotel	Day 11	VIA Rail's <i>The Ocean</i>
Day 5-6	VIA Rail's <i>The Canadian</i>	Day 12-14	Halifax, Cambridge Suites Hotel
Day 7-8	Toronto, Fairmont Royal York Hotel		

Highlights included on both tours...

- > Visit the Manitoba Museum
- > Authentic visit to the Mennonite Heritage Village, with a traditional Russian lunch
- > Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- > Enjoy a cultural workshop in Winnipeg with dinner and entertainment
- > Skylon Tower & dinner in revolving restaurant
- > A day at Niagara Falls and enjoy a sightseeing tour
- > Board the Hornblower for a cruise to bottom of Niagara Falls
- > Come from Away at the Royal Alexandra in Toronto

CANADIAN TOURS

B.C. FJORDS CRUISE

June 16, 2018 — 6 days

The great fjords of the British Columbia Coast rival those of Norway in length and depth and have even higher mountain scenery. This tour takes you to Knight Inlet, British Columbia's longest fjord, Desolation Sound, British Columbia's largest marine park, Jervis Inlet, and the Princess Louisa Fjord. Experience the wild rush of the Nakwakto Tidal Rapids, and view grizzly bears up close at the Glendale River estuary. Of the six days on this tour, 3½ days are devoted to cruising the sheltered waters near Vancouver Island. Come and join this unique tour, cruising some fabulous scenic waterways. This tour is limited to 32 passengers to ensure comfort for everyone on the vessels.

\$1890 pp double; **\$2195** single
6 Seats left!



INSIDE PASSAGE & SKEENA TRAIN

June 22, 2018 — 8 days

CALGARY STAMPEDE

July 4, 2018 — 6 days

Pull on your jeans and boots, don your cowboy hat, and get ready for a yee-haw good time at the annual Calgary Stampede! There is so much to see and do: wander through the barns to view the prize-winning animals, thrill to the rides on the midway, admire some of the greatest western artists in the world, explore the native village, live it up at Nashville North, visit the agricultural shows, and enjoy non-stop live entertainment throughout the day and night. We have included reserved seats to the premier Stampede events: the kick-off parade, the thrilling afternoon rodeo, and the spectacular evening chuckwagon races and stage show. Our 2018 tour has a new itinerary with a leisurely drive home via Radium Hot Springs. So come and join us at the 105th Calgary Stampede.

\$2895 pp double **\$3555** single
4 Seats left!



\$1875 pp double; **\$2290** single
discounts up to \$80 pp



QUADRA ISLAND & NOOTKA SOUND

July 8, 2018 — 5 days

Steeped in history and surrounded by the natural beauty of the west coast of Vancouver Island, Nootka Sound is a paradise for those seeking to explore and enjoy the magnificent wilderness surroundings. A cruise on the *MV Uchuck* offers splendid coastal scenery and Chuck Syme, local historian and Nootka expert, is with us to provide interpretive talks and walks. Yuquot, also known as Friendly Cove, was the summer home of Chief Maquinna and the Mowachaht/Muchalaht people for millennia, and retains historic significance today as the site of the first contact between Europeans and First Nations people in British Columbia. This tour is full of breathtaking scenery and relaxation. We stay two nights on Quadra Island at the splendid Tsa-kwa-luten Lodge overlooking Discovery Passage and two nights in historic Gold River.

\$1190 pp double **Singles waitlisted**

Pickups and drop offs available in Courtenay on this tour!



SUMMER THEATRE IN ALBERTA

July 16, 2018 — 7 days

Alberta has numerous experiences to enjoy, ranging from natural attractions to excellent theatre and fascinating museums. This tour spends a night at Radium Hot Springs, where you can relax in the soothing waters of Canada's biggest hot springs pool. From here we go to Calgary and to the Stage West Dinner Theatre for a superb buffet and the musical **Red Rock Diner**. Then it's off to Drumheller to the intimate 200-seat Opera House of Rosebud Theatre. Their summer play is the musical **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**. We will also attend the **Canadian Badlands Passion Play**, one of only a few large scale dramatic productions in the world that portray the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Before heading home we will visit the impressive Royal Tyrrell Museum, a multi-million dollar tribute to the Dinosaur Age, and enjoy some sights in the Red Deer River Valley near Drumheller, such as the Atlas Coal Mine. Our final theatre production is at the Jubilations Dinner Theatre to see **Runaway Bridesmaids**.

\$2165 pp double; **\$2660** single
discounts up to \$80 pp



BELLA COOLA & TWEEDSMUIR PARK

July 18 & August 1, 2018 — 8 days

from **\$2975** pp double *Singles waitlisted*
Both departures filling fast!



The Bella Coola Valley is a gem in the pocket of British Columbia. Remote, beautiful and inspiring, this lush valley is in such contrast to the sweeping grasslands of the Chilcotin Plateau. Wells Gray Tours began to offer tours to Bella Coola in 1987, but in 2014, the ferry was abruptly cancelled despite 3,500 letters of protest from the tourist industry. The government has finally restored the service and the new ferry, *Northern Sea Wolf*, will start operating in 2018. Highlights include, the 10-hour journey north through the magnificent scenery of the famed Inside Passage, local guiding by Rene Morton, life-long Bella Coola resident, Bella Coola Hill — a pioneering marvel, Nimpo Lake — BC's float plane capital, and flight to Hunlen Falls, Monarch Icefields & Rainbow Range.

MARITIMES & NEWFOUNDLAND

August 20, 2018 — 24 days

\$6995 pp double; **\$8695** single
13 Seats left!



2018 will be the 41st year that Wells Gray has offered Maritimes tours! No other company in British Columbia has organized this tour for so many years or knows Atlantic Canada better than we do. All our hotels, attractions and restaurants are chosen carefully to ensure you have a memorable experience. Very few competing tour itineraries include Newfoundland and our 2018 tour stays 10 nights there. We strongly believe you should see this scenic province while you are touring eastern Canada. It has been a highlight of our Atlantic Canada tours since 1990. Most hotel stays are for two or three nights, so you do not have to put up with the inconvenience of repacking your suitcase every morning. A Wells Gray Maritimes tour is noted for its leisurely itinerary, many included meals and attractions, and superb hotels in great locations. To reduce driving time, we fly from Victoria to Halifax and return from St. John's, NL.

2018 NORTH AMERICAN DESTINATIONS

SKAGIT TULIP FESTIVAL

April 10, 2018 — 4 days

\$995 pp double; **\$1285** single
21 Seats left!



The Skagit Valley explodes in an abundance of colour when the tulips blossom. Although Mother Nature ultimately decides the dates, the middle of the month tends to be good timing for this showy display. Whether early or late, there are usually dainty yellow daffodils first, followed by a rainbow of tulips, then the irises and lilies after that. We visit the Tulip Festival on a weekday to avoid the crowds that come here on weekends from Seattle. This tour spends a morning in La Conner, a delightful waterfront town of heritage buildings and interesting shopping. A cruise from La Conner through narrow Deception Pass and the Swinomish Channel is a highlight of the second day. The local Kiwanis Club organizes a salmon bake dinner each evening during the Tulip Festival, and we join this event on the third evening. This tour stays at the luxurious Tulalip Resort and Casino, located about 30 minutes drive from the focal area of the Tulip Festival.

NEW ENGLAND

May 31, 2018 — 17 days

\$6330 pp double; **\$7795** single
discounts up to \$300 pp



This new tour route takes you to the rolling hills, coastal beauty, and historically rich areas of New England. We fly non-stop from Seattle to Boston where we stay for two nights. A Locally-guided tour of Boston including a walk along the Freedom Trail, a visit to the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum are included. We then board the Amtrak train for a 2 ½ hour journey north to Portland, Maine. Here we enjoy a locally-guided tour of Portland, the Lighthouse Lovers cruise in Portland harbour, the Maine Lighthouse Museum, an afternoon tea at the Looking Glass, a locally-guided tour of Bar Harbor, a Bar Harbor cruise with lobster bake and attend the Great Maine Lumberjack show. Leaving the coast, we drive west into New Hampshire. A highlight here is the Café Lafayette Dinner Train with a five course dinner. Our next train ride is the Mount Washington Cog Railway, the world's first mountain-climbing rack-and-pinion railway. New England is, without a doubt, the most naturally stunning part of the entire United States. Join us and enjoy 3 of the most scenic of railroads available in this area!

RAILS, RIVERS, & ROSES

June 4, 2018 — 8 days

\$2870 pp double; **\$3760** single
discounts up to \$60 pp



Trains, boats and flowers! Wells Gray Tours has offered tours to the Portland Rose Festival for nearly 30 years. Those tours focused on the many events during the festival, but times have changed. You have told us that you are looking for more variety and different experiences during your holidays, so this tour has been created to provide a diverse range of activities. You travel on two trains (Mount Hood Railroad and Mount Rainier Railroad) and two boats (Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler on the Columbia River and Portland Spirit on the Willamette River). Three events of the Portland Rose Festival are included – a tour behind the scenes of the floats barn, the Rose Queen's Coronation, and the Grand Floral Parade.

NEW YORK CITY

July 2, 2018 — 7 days

\$3945 pp double; **\$4865** single
6 Seats left!



New York City, the city of icons. Empire State Building. Statue of Liberty. Rockefeller Center. American Museum of Natural History. Top of the Rock. Macy's Fifth Avenue. Radio City Rockettes. Metropolitan Museum of Art. Ground Zero. Central Park. Times Square. Wall Street. Broadway. The list of familiar sights and experiences goes on and Wells Gray Tours is proud to take you there. The tour is planned for early July, traditionally a quieter time for the city, when hotel rates are not as exorbitant. Temperatures are warm, but not too hot and humid. This tour has lots of choices. There is a balance of organized activities and free time to help you maximize your exploration during your stay. We have included a two-day hop-on hop-off all loop pass for double decker touring, a great way to get around the city and get insider information as well.

NORTH CASCADES & OLYMPIC PENINSULA

September 9, 2018 — 9 days

\$2695 pp double; **\$3495** single
discounts up to \$120 pp



Just across the border, Washington State has many highlights for the traveller to enjoy. Mount Rainier is the highest mountain in the state, but our tours seldom travel as close to it as this one which visits delightful Paradise Inn at treeline. Contrasted with the National Park wilderness is the bustling city of Tacoma where we watch glass-blowing at the Tacoma Glass Museum, stroll among exquisitely restored cars at the LeMay Museum, and wander the grounds of Lakewold Garden Estate. Then we head west to the coast and an oceanview resort. Olympic National Park is next where we enjoy the surf at Kalaloch, the verdant hanging mosses of the Hoh Rainforest, and the stunning views from Hurricane Ridge. The circle is completed as we drive the North Cascades Highway across Washington Pass and stay our last night at fabulous Sun Mountain Lodge, perched on a mountaintop above Winthrop. All three of Washington's National Parks are included in this scenic tour which was first offered in 2017 as a Mystery Tour. Note: If you prefer a shorter 7-day tour, you can take the ferry from Port Angeles to Victoria on Sept 16. You will miss the North Cascades Highway and Sun Mountain Lodge. Fare reduction is \$390 per person

OREGON COAST EXPLORER

September 18, 2018 — 10 days

\$2775 pp double; **\$3495** single
discounts up to \$120 pp



Oregon's nearly 550 km of pristine, public coastline is made up of diverse terrain that changes from rugged cliffs to lush evergreen forests to Sahara-like dunes and boundless sandy beaches. Join Wells Gray Tours as we follow the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway, US Highway 101, past a smorgasbord of one-of-a-kind attractions between the California border and Lincoln City. The quaint towns have a penchant for serving up legendary seafood, historic lighthouses, breathtaking viewpoints, stunning state parks, a cornucopia of galleries and museums, and a world class aquarium. Stroll the beaches and do some beachcombing. Wonder at the unique myrtlewood crafts. Explore an aquarium, then savour dinner among the sea creatures. Get up close and personal with a myriad of marine life. Yell out loud as you ride the sands in a dune buggy. Watch waves crashing into the narrow slot of Devil's Churn. Get ready for the Oregon Coast!

YELLOWSTONE & CANYONLANDS

October 6, 2018 — 18 days

\$4995 pp double; **\$6495** single
discounts up to \$100 pp



From the erupting geysers of Yellowstone to the soaring peaks of the Grand Tetons, from the colourful spires of Bryce Canyon to the extraordinary natural bridges of Arches Park, this tour has an amazing variety of natural wonders. The fall foliage, the brilliant red and orange rocks of southern Utah, and the multitude of hues around the geyser basins all combine to create this kaleidoscope of colour. We visit eight famous national parks: Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, Dinosaur, Colorado, Arches, Canyonlands, Bryce Canyon, and Zion. Later in the tour, a contrast from the natural attractions is found in Salt Lake City with the museums of Temple Square and the splendid music of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

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MEXICO'S COPPER CANYON

October 15 & October 29, 2018 — 14 days

\$4995 pp double; **\$5690** single
Both departures filling fast!



Excite your senses with this wonderful tour of Mexico's Copper Canyon. This tour is full of cultural riches and activities. We fly from Seattle non-stop to Tucson and then travel south along the coastal freeway through the vast agricultural farmlands growing corn, wheat, sugar cane, chile peppers, tomatoes and many other crops. We board the Chihuahua Al Pacifico Railroad and thrill to its engineering wonders during our ride in the first class "Ferromex" coach for our journey from El Fuerte to Creel through 86 tunnels and over 39 bridges. We enjoy 3 days of train excursions into the roadless terrain of one of the world's deepest and remotest canyons. We also tour the Tarahumara Indian land and meet the natives who inhabit the caves along the canyon walls. A walk to 30-metre high Cusarare Falls and a ride on the remarkable aerial tramway for magnificent views of the Copper Canyon are also included. Our last stop is in Mazatlan for 2 nights where we enjoy a sightseeing tour and free time to enjoy the Inn at Mazatlan Resort hotel and beach.

NEW ORLEANS & CAJUN COUNTRY

October 22, 2018 — 10 days

\$3685 pp double; **\$4335** single
discounts up to \$200 pp



Fall in love with New Orleans and Louisiana. The state of Louisiana is divided into five distinct regions, and you experience three on this vacation. New Orleans is one of the great cities in the western world, not a place you simply visit, but a place you will be captivated by. The cultural riches, sensual indulgences and unparalleled service that define the New Orleans experience still flourish. History comes to life in Plantation Country. Wind along the Great River Road as you travel back to the 1800s to the days of sprawling antebellum plantations, glimpsing the lives of both master and slave. Cajun Country, along the peaceful bayous, is where the first French Canadians settled and forever changed the landscape and culture of the state. Resourceful, stoic and inventive, these were the people who turned soup into gumbo and washboards into musical instruments.

BRANSON

October 25, 2018 — 10 days

\$3925 pp double; **\$4460** single
discounts up to \$200 pp



The entertainment in Branson, Missouri is non-stop, filled with music, laughter and legends of the stage. Bring your sense of fun and excitement to experience 13 musical shows including **Daniel O'Donnell's** annual performance in Branson. Other shows include: **Presley's Country Jubilee show**, **Yakov Smirnoff show**, **Broadway's Greatest Hits show**, **Irish Tenors & Celtic Ladies show**, **John Denver Tribute show**, **#1 Hits of the Sixties show**, **The Dutton Family show**, **Down Home Country show**, **Pierce Arrow show**, **Samson show**, **Brett Family show**, and the **Oakridge Boys**. Currently there are 40 theatres operating in Branson and it has more theatre seats than Broadway or Las Vegas. It has been named the #1 U.S. destination for groups for the past five years and entertains more than six million visitors annually, but has a year-round population of only 11,000. Branson's title today is the "live music show capital of the world."

CRUISES 2018



Holland America Line®
SAVOR THE JOURNEY

GREENLAND & ICELAND CRUISE

from **\$10,540** pp double; from **\$14,255** single

June 25, 2018 — 25 days



Come cruise and enjoy 18 days on the *Rotterdam* from the Netherlands to Boston. We start this epic journey in Amsterdam and spend three nights exploring historic buildings and impressive sights such as the Dam Square, Royal Palace, the New Church, the canals, and Waterloo Square. We also visit the renowned Rijksmuseum, Anne Frank House and the UNESCO-listed village of Zaanse Schans. Our first port stop is in Bergen where we enjoy a morning tour including the Old Bergen Museum and the Funicular up Mount Floyen. Next in the Shetland Islands, a six hour tour of the largest Island, is included. We dock in Akureyri, Iceland and an all-day tour takes you around Lake Myvatn with a swim in the hot springs at Myvatn Nature Baths. In Reykjavik, the northernmost capital of Europe, many highlights are included such as Strokkur Geysir which erupts every 5-10 minutes, mighty Gullfoss waterfall, and Pingvellir National Park. We enjoy scenic cruising in Prince Christian Sound along the rugged east coast of Greenland. We also visit the southernmost community in Greenland, Nanortalik, where only 1,300 people reside. A day of leisure cruising takes us across the Labrador Sea before arriving in St. John's, Newfoundland. Next, we dock in Halifax where our coach and guide are waiting to provide an all-day tour of Halifax highlights, followed by a drive out to famous Peggy's Cove. Our last port of call is in Boston, one of the oldest cities in the USA, founded in 1630 by Puritan colonists from England. There is a driving tour with a local guide who will take us to Beacon Hill, Boston Common and Massachusetts State House as well as a leisurely walk along a one kilometre section of Boston's Freedom Trail. From Boston we fly back to Victoria via Toronto on Westjet.

WEST COAST CRUISE & RAIL

from **\$5055** pp double; from **\$6585** single
discounts up to \$200 pp

September 24, 2018 — 16 days



Enjoy 5 nights cruising on the *Amsterdam* and four train excursions on this tour. We first dock in San Francisco where a local guide takes us on a sightseeing tour of the city. Our next adventure is in Los Angeles where we will enjoy touring the City of Angels and the Richard Nixon Presidential Library. We then board the Amtrak train from Irvine to San Luis Obispo along California's coast. In Monterey we visit the famed Monterey Bay Aquarium and have time to explore Cannery Row. Near here we board the Roaring Camp Railroad on a steam locomotive through a grove of redwoods followed by a barbecue lunch. Our next train excursion is on the Skunk Railroad from Willits to Northspur and back through the awesome redwoods. For the journey home we board an Amtrak train for a daylight excursion with terrific scenery as we climb over the Cascade Range.

MONTREAL TO FLORIDA CRUISE

from **\$7320** pp double; from **\$9330** single
discounts up to \$250 pp

October 11, 2018 — 19 days



Come cruise on the *Rotterdam* in the Maritimes & along Atlantic Coast. We fly from the Victoria Airport to Montréal and stay two days here exploring the vibrant centre of French Canadian traditions. We enjoy a locally guided afternoon tour that includes Mount Royal, Old Montréal, Île Sainte-Hélène, downtown landmarks, and Olympic Park. We also enjoy festive dining, revelry and entertainment at Le Festin du Gouverneur. We then board the *Rotterdam* for 15 days of scenic cruising. This cruise includes excursions in Québec City, Charlottetown and Prince Edward Island, Halifax, Boston, New York, Charleston, Key West, and Tampa after disembarking. The key attractions and local guides are also included. There are so many highlights on this tour including, the Anne of Green Gables cottage, Prince Edward Island National Park, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Halifax Citadel National Historic Site, guided walking tour of Boston's Freedom Trail, Old North Church and Paul Revere House, USS Constitution, tour of New York City, Radio City Music Hall, Top of the Rock Observatory, and the Charleston Tea Plantation. After docking in Tampa, we bid farewell to the *Rotterdam* and fly non-stop to Seattle.

25

COLUMBIA RIVER CRUISE

May 20, 2018 — 11 days

from **\$6045** pp double; from **\$10,110** single
Filling Fast!



Fraser Neave, Director of Product, cruised on the *American Empress* in June 2015 and loved the whole trip. Come and admire the spectacular sights along the storied Columbia. We cruise from Clarkston to Portland. All shore excursions and daily lectures by a Columbia River expert are included. Highlights include Nez Perce National Park, Bridablik House, Lewis and Clark Center for Arts & History, Franklin County Historical Society & Museum and the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center.

DANUBE RIVER CRUISE

August 4, 2018 — 18 days

from **\$9795** pp double; from **\$13,710** single
9 Seats left!



Many of Europe's major capital cities are along the Danube River, a testament to its importance in the history of civilization in this area. Our Avalon Waterways cruise takes in a very scenic portion from Bucharest in Romania to Budapest in Hungary with eight relaxed days to enjoy the vistas from the river. A highlight is the Iron Gates gorge. Award-winning land programs help you experience each destination, with guided sightseeing in every port (complete with headsets), engaging port lectures, VIP access into key destinations, no waiting in lines, and great cultural immersion and storytelling thanks to skilled cruise directors and guides. This is the 4th river cruise that Wells Gray has offered with Avalon.

ST. LAWRENCE & OTTAWA RIVERS CRUISE from **\$4760** pp double; from **\$6185** single
August 28, 2018 — 10 days **A few seats left!**



The St. Lawrence River begins at the foot of Lake Ontario near Kingston, and flows generally in a north-easterly direction about 1,300 kilometres to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. This mighty river which Sir J.M. LeMoine called "The noblest, the purest, most enchanting river on all God's beautiful earth" acts as a natural boundary for many kilometres between Canada and the USA. Roland and Anne Neave, owners of Wells Gray Tours, cruised on the *Canadian Empress* in September 2016. Come and experience a different kind of river cruising on an intimate ship. The *Canadian Empress* carries only 66 passengers in 32 cabins. The ship docks most nights in a town along the St. Lawrence River, so you can go ashore at your leisure and explore the area. Although the ship enters the USA several times, it does not dock there, so no passport is needed for the whole trip. We will sail the St. Lawrence River from Kingston to Quebec City, and all shore excursions are included. A highlight of our cruise on the *Canadian Empress* is the opportunity to pass through seven locks between Kingston and Montreal, experiencing an overall change in water level of 75 metres! We fly home with Westjet via Toronto.

25

NEWFOUNDLAND CIRCUMNAVIGATION CRUISE

September 30, 2018 — 13 days

A few seats left!
from **\$9245** pp double; **\$9460** single



Starting and ending in historic St. John's, this 10 day cruise on board *Ocean Endeavour* offers an intimate experience of Newfoundland's lively culture and dramatic scenery via daily expedition stops and community visits. A call at the French island of Saint-Pierre completes the adventure. Famed for its music and stories, Newfoundland is also incredibly picturesque, with a rugged coastline rendered spectacular by autumn foliage and light. Newfoundland's rich natural history, including the remarkable geology of Gros Morne, is second only to its incredible cultural offerings. We visit Red Bay's Basque Whaling Station (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), learn about the Viking history in North America at L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site, and enjoy a taste of the Mi'kmaq culture in Miawpukek First Nation (Conne River). And we will do it all in the company of a lively resource staff of local musicians, artists, and naturalists. This sailing is ideally timed for viewing spectacular fall colours and taking advantage of excellent walking opportunities. Experience legendary music, food, and hospitality in true Newfoundland fashion: by sea!

*** NOTE FOR ALL CRUISES ***

Early booking is essential. Unsold staterooms are taken away by the cruise company when the ships get close to being full.



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Wells Gray Park - May 31 - 5 days
Haida Gwaii - July 30 - 7 days

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When the tour comes out for sale, we will notify you. Please note, this does not mean you are automatically booked on the tour. To book you on the tour we must speak to you and collect a deposit.

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