

NEWFOUNDLAND CIRCUMNAVIGATION CRUISE

10 days cruise around Newfoundland on *Ocean Endeavour*
September 30, 2018 - 13 Days



a world to experience



Fares Per Person: based on double/twin

\$9,245 Inside Category 3

\$10,495 Outside Category 4

\$11,650 Outside Category 5



tour
a more intimate travel experience

- > Please add 0.6% GST
- > \$215 single supplement, limited number of cabins, book early
- > Other categories may be available.
- > **Experience Points:** Earn 149 points from this tour.
Redeem **149 points** if you book by **May 22.**

* HIGHLIGHTS & PORTS *

St. John's
Cape Spear
Signal Hill
L'Anse aux Meadows

Red Bay, Labrador
Gros Morne National Park
Miawpukek
Saint-Pierre and Miquelon

Includes

- Flight from Victoria to St. John's, Newfoundland, and return
- Air transport taxes, security fees, luggage fees
- Transfer from St. John's airport to hotel
- 2 nights accommodation & taxes in St. John's
- Locally-guided tour of St. John's
- Cape Spear National Historic Site
- Signal Hill National Historic Site
- Transfer from hotel to *Ocean Endeavour* dock
- 10 days on board *Ocean Endeavour*
- Gratuities for ship crew, guides and naturalists
- Discovery Fee (US\$250)
- Lectures and other services on board ship
- L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site
- Red Bay National Historic Site
- Gros Morne National Park
- Transfer from dock to St. John's airport
- Wells Gray tour director throughout the tour
- Luggage handling at hotel and ship
- **30 meals:** 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 11 dinners

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MS Ocean Endeavour

The *Ocean Endeavour* was built in 1981 and has operated as a cruise ship in the Baltic, the Mediterranean, and throughout Scandinavia. Adventure Canada has leased the ship since 2014 and has undertaken major renovations to equip it for Arctic voyages. The ship is 137 metres long and has six passenger decks. The ship carries 198 passengers. There is a variety of cabins ranging from Insides to Outsides and Suites. The outside cabins have portholes or picture windows, some with obstructed views. Each cabin has a private bathroom. None of the cabins have balconies. Cabins range in size from 9 to 30 square metres, generally smaller than large cruise ships. A few cabins are designated as singles with no single surcharge. The ship has two elevators which serve only Decks 4, 5 and 6. The Polaris Restaurant where all meals are served, Nautilus Lounge where most lectures are offered, Compass Club which contains the library and tea room, and the gift shop are on Deck 6. A hot tub is on Deck 7, a gymnasium and sauna are on Deck 8, and an observation lounge and outdoor viewing area are on Deck 9.

Expedition staff are experts on Newfoundland including geology, history, and flora and fauna. There are frequent lectures, educational presentations, and interactive workshops. Evening entertainment is offered. There is a fully-stocked library for additional reading about the cruise destinations. During many days, there are expeditions ashore or to nearby attractions, using the ship's 18 zodiacs.

All meals are included in the Polaris Restaurant and there is also afternoon tea daily and one on-deck barbeque. Coffee, tea and snacks are available 24 hours a day. Snacks are served during evening programs. Alcoholic beverages can be purchased in the lounges and at dinner.

Tour and Cruise Notes

- We urge you to visit our office and look at the ship's deck plans to better choose your cabin/category.
- Due to extremely high demand for small ship cruises, the *Ocean Endeavour* may be full for this cruise many months in advance. Wells Gray Tours has limited cabins in categories 3, 4 and 5. The quoted price for singles will increase after the cabins designated for singles are sold out. Book early for best choice.
- Cancellation penalties are higher than normal for a Wells Gray tour and effective dates are further out. These penalties are applied by the cruise line and cannot be altered, even for name changes.
- Comprehensive insurance is mandatory and Adventure Canada requires proof of at least \$75,000 in emergency evacuation coverage due to the remote places we visit. If you do not buy insurance through Wells Gray Tours, it is essential that you check your policy carefully. Insurance with your credit card or employee benefits may not cover what you need.
- This cruise is late in the season to enjoy splendid fall foliage colours. Bring warm clothing for outdoors.
- A passport is required as you are travelling on an internationally registered ship and entering a foreign country (Saint-Pierre).
- A detailed brochure about packing tips, the ship, and shore excursions will be available later.
- Following is the planned itinerary, but many factors such as weather, sea conditions, icebergs, and wildlife can cause changes to the route or the shore excursions.

Cruise all around Newfoundland!

Starting and ending in historic St. John's, this cruise 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!

Itinerary

Sunday, September 30:

Flights are arranged from Victoria to **St. John's, Newfoundland**. We stay two nights at the Delta Hotel which has an excellent location downtown near the harbour.

Monday, October 1:

Meals: D

The morning is leisure time to relax after the long flight east. This afternoon, a tour with a local guide visits **Cabot Tower** atop Signal Hill, Confederation Building, Quidi Vidi Battery, and **Cape Spear**, the most easterly point in North America. St. John's is Newfoundland's historic, vibrant capital. With a world-famous harbour, St. John's has been continually fished by Europeans since 1498, allowing it to boast the designation of North America's oldest European settlement. A reception for all passengers on the ship is planned tonight at the hotel. Meet the expedition leaders and listen to a briefing about our Newfoundland cruising adventure for the next 10 days.

Tuesday, October 2:

Meals: D

The morning is free to explore St. John's some more on your own, or browse the shops along Water Street near the hotel. A transfer is provided to the dock and we board the **Ocean Endeavour**. Be sure to have a good vantage point on deck when the ship casts off and passes through the **Narrows** with Signal Hill rising to the north. Savour your first fine dinner in the Polaris Restaurant and a "Welcome Aboard" event in the Nautilus Lounge.

Wednesday, October 3:

Meals: B,L,D

Thursday, October 4:

Meals: B,L,D

The northeast coast of Newfoundland is known for the dozens of picturesque villages that dot its rocky shores, and we stop in one of these unique communities. We look forward to a characteristically warm Newfoundland welcome upon our arrival. Photographers have their work cut out for them, capturing the special charm of classic island construction and brilliant yellow or red trees.

Friday, October 5:

Meals: B,L,D

We stop at the tip of Newfoundland's Northern Peninsula to visit **L'Anse aux Meadows**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is the only authenticated Norse settlement in North America. The archaeological ruins found here in 1960 date to about 1000 AD. Amazingly, the site was first established by a close reading of the Viking sagas. Today, a superb interpretive centre and reconstructions of several Norse-style sod buildings make L'Anse aux Meadows a significant stop. We also visit nearby

Norstead where the Viking replica ship, **Snorri**, is on display.

Saturday, October 6:

Meals: B,L,D

Labrador is home to the **Red Bay Basque Whaling Station**, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Beginning in the 1500s, Basque whalers operated out of the Red Bay harbour, making it the largest whaling station in the world. The site includes 600 acres of terrestrial and aquatic protected area. Among the important artifacts found at Red Bay is the whaling ship *San Juan*, lost in a storm in 1565 and found centuries later submerged in the harbour in only 10 metres of water. A large number of tools, personal items, and navigational instruments have been recovered from the wreck. After departing Red Bay, the *Ocean Endeavour* enters the **Strait of Belle Isle** which separates Labrador from Newfoundland, and the Point Amour Lighthouse, second tallest in Canada, should be visible to the west.

Sunday, October 7:

Meals: B,L,D

Gros Morne National Park is internationally famed for its geographic diversity and majesty. The park's mountains are both picturesque and highly unusual. The Tablelands, a 600-metre plateau, forms one of the world's best examples of ancient rock exposed from the earth's mantle. The park's fjords are equally stunning. There is a choice of walks here, catering to all levels of skill and interest, as we explore the surrounding area. The beauty of **Bonne Bay** during fall colours is surely a highlight, as is the colourful cluster of buildings in the town of Woody Point.

Monday, October 8:

Meals: B,L,D

Tuesday, October 9:

Meals: B,L,D

The wild and windswept coast of southern Newfoundland is home to a few remaining outport communities, still largely cut off from mainstream travel. Visits here are often a highlight of this cruise. There are many unique bays and coves to explore via the zodiacs. Again, autumn hues among the low-lying vegetation are sure to keep photographers and botanists reaching for their cameras!

Wednesday, October 10:

Meals: B,L,D

The First Nations community of **Miawpukek** (Conne River) has an economically self-sufficient mandate, guided by traditional values. It became a permanent settlement around 1822. Before then, it was one of many temporary camping sites used by the Mi'kmaq people who had traditional-

ly travelled nomadically throughout the east coast. Since its establishment as a reserve in 1987, Miawpukek has often been referenced as a highly successful First Nation. We receive a formal welcome from local leaders and have a chance to explore this special community.

Thursday, October 11:

Meals: B,L,D

The *Ocean Endeavour* arrives at **Saint-Pierre**, the last bastion of France's colonial territories in North America. The Portuguese landed on these islands in 1520 and they were made a French possession in 1536 by Jacques Cartier. Though already frequented by Mi'kmaq people and Basque and Breton fishermen, the islands were not permanently settled until 1670. During our stay, stroll the

streets past colourful and charming shops and homes, and savour French food, wine, and sweet delicacies at the cafés and bakeries. Saint-Pierre offers a taste of European living, just a short sail from the coast of Newfoundland. Tonight is our farewell dinner in the *Polaris*, an opportunity to reminisce about our journey around Newfoundland.

Friday, October 12:

Meals: B

When the *Ocean Endeavour* passes through the Narrows to return to the harbour of **St. John's**, we have completed our circumnavigation of Newfoundland. Transportation is provided to the airport and we take an afternoon flight to Victoria.



Tour Policies

Payments: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due May 22, 2018. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to March 1, your tour payments will be refunded less a cruise line fee of \$700 per person. From March 2 to May 22, the cancellation charge is \$1,000 per person. From May 23 to June 22, the cancellation charge is 65% of the tour fare. After June 22, there is no refund. Be sure that your travel insurance policy covers these penalties.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from the airline, cruise line and other tour suppliers can occur at any time. The cruise fare is charged to Wells Gray Tours in US dollars, and exchange rates are impossible to predict 10 months in advance when this tour was set up. All these changes 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. Any decreases in costs will also be passed on.

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: Adventure Canada (*Ocean Endeavour*)

Tour 25: This is a Tour 25 departure, meaning capacity of tour is limited to 25 Wells Gray participants or less, a more intimate travel experience. Note that the ship can carry up to 198 people.

Activity Level: This tour is very active including getting in and out of zodiacs, and walking on tundra or beaches with no trail. The ship's elevator accesses 3 of the 6 passenger decks. It is extremely important to read the cruise line's printed materials about this tour, so you can assess whether you are capable of handling the activity. This tour is not appropriate for people with walkers, wheelchairs, or scooters. Seeing everything requires active participation. Prior to accepting your booking, you will be required to sign a declaration that you are capable of travelling on an Activity Level 3 tour. The tour director and ship's staff have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance if this tour is too active for you. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require ongoing assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense. Travel insurance will probably not cover you.

E-points: This tour earns 149 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until May 22.

Consumer Protection BC Licence: #65842