



WELLS GRAY TOURS

a world to experience



The Experience Quarterly

Currently Available Tours – as of August 2018



250.590.7889

www.wellsgraytours.com

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V8W 1E1

GREETINGS FRIENDS!

Ah, summer! The sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, and the birds are singing. No matter where you live, spending time outside does wonders for your soul. Keep reading and you're sure to find your next adventure!

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".

No one likes getting sick

To support the health and wellness of customers and employees & to help prevent sickness Tour Directors will be carrying Hand Sanitizer with them and everyone will be required to use it when boarding the coaches. They are gels that contain alcohol in order to kill the germs present on the skin. The alcohol works immediately and effectively in order to kill bacteria and most viruses. Tour directors will also now have face masks available at no charge. Please also take a supply of cold and sinus relief medication along with your own personal prescriptions. Drug stores are not always located easily and stops for shopping take extra time. If you do become ill before a tour departs, out of consideration of your fellow travellers, please consider staying home.

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 waiver that he/she understands that the tour has a lot of activity and that they are physically capable of participating. 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.**



Wells Gray Tours is proud to provide the Tour 25 travel experience.

Tours indicated by this icon on our website and brochures are Tour 25 departures, meaning group capacity is a maximum 25 participants or less. This allows Wells Gray Tours to create a more personal, flexible and authentic experience, which is perfect for many destinations. Travelling in smaller groups allows us to access exciting new places and to offer more up close, personal and unique encounters. It is one more way we are working to meet your evolving travelling preferences.

Look for the Tour 25 logo for a more intimate travel experience

25

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: Blue footed boobie, Galapagos Islands & Ecuador, itinerary on page 3.

Photo Credit: Pixabay

INTERNATIONAL GETAWAYS!

25

MEXICO'S YUCATAN WINTER GETAWAY January 13, 2019 — 16 days

\$7075 pp double; **\$8560** single
discounts up to \$300 pp



The Yucatan capital, arose from the merger of three major cultures: Mayan, Spanish and Lebanese, that together give it its unique architecture, cuisine and people. Impressive archaeological sites, colonial and modern buildings coexist in harmony. There are so many highlights on this tour. We take a boat excursion on the Grijalva River which is the most popular way to explore the Sumidero Canyon National Park. This is one of Mexico's most dramatic cruises and there are several key attractions to look out for en route. Next, we visit San Cristóbal which is at the heart of one of the most deeply rooted indigenous areas in Mexico. We will explore a local market and learn the process of hand-making tortillas. Next, we visit the Palenque archaeological site, founded by the Mayans in 226 BC. It is here that explorers discovered Pakal's tomb with his famous jade green mask. We will spend time with a local family who will share their traditions with us, tour the archaeological site of Uxmal including The Fortuneteller's Pyramid known as Pirámide del Adivino and spend an afternoon learning how chocolate is prepared using an ancestral recipe. We also travel through Izamal, the "Magic Town", to Chichén Itzá and visit the Ikkil Cenote to swim with the black catfish. The cenote is 26 metres below ground level and is sacred to the Mayans who used this cenote for both relaxation and ritual services. Swimming in a cenote is a sacred, almost mystical experience. We continue to the Riviera Maya and check-in at the Grand Bahía Príncipe Tulum, an all-inclusive oceanfront resort where we have a free day to enjoy the beautiful beach at the hotel or many other activities before flying home. This tour will hypnotize you with ancient Mayan ruins and colonial cities.

25

COSTA RICA January 18, 2019 — 15 days

\$6995 pp double; **\$8360** single
8 Seats left!



Costa Rica covers a mere 0.03% of the planet's surface, but is home to 5% of all living organisms on earth. Active volcanoes, lush cloud forests, lowland jungles, rolling savannas, and coral beaches create a spectacular setting to experience the country's natural beauty and exotic flora and fauna. Much of this area is preserved by one of the most remarkable park systems in the world, making Costa Rica a model for conservation in harmony with community development and economic growth. During this unique tour, we travel through some of the richest habitats of Costa Rica, from Caribbean lowland rain forests to central volcanic highlands, from a cloud forest interior to coastal resorts. One highlight of the tour is our three-night stay at Barceló Occidental Tamarindo Hotel on the Pacific Ocean. You will be awed by the natural beauty of this private tropical resort and have plenty of time to relax and soak up the sun. The resort is all-inclusive so meals, drinks and most activities are complimentary. Come and admire the natural wonders of Costa Rica and get away from a Canadian winter for two relaxing weeks.

25

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS & ECUADOR February 8, 2019 — 24 days

\$17,195 pp double; **\$18,885** single
8 Seats left!



Ecuador is the smallest country in the Andes but boasts five world heritage sites including 16th century colonial Quito. For most tourists, the country serves as a gateway to the Galapagos Islands and its other wonders are overlooked. On this tour, we visit El Angel Ecological Reserve, Napo Wildlife Center in the Amazon jungle, Cotopaxi Volcano, and Ingapirca Fortress, and ride the Devil's Nose Train. We spend 13 days exploring the cultural and natural wonders of mainland Ecuador. Then we fly to the Galapagos Islands for a cruise aboard the first-class passenger vessel M/C Seaman Journey. For 8 days and 7 nights, we cruise from island to island with an expert naturalist and observe the unique flora and fauna made famous by Charles Darwin. The ship carries only 16 people in 8 cabins. Picture yourself walking around nests carelessly built by blue-footed boobies on the trail. Imagine feeling the cool Galapagos waters as you swim with penguins at the Equator and see playful sea lions, manta rays, and colourful fish through your snorkelling mask. Enjoy close encounters with armies of marine iguanas and hundreds of seabirds such as the waved albatross, flightless cormorants, and the magnificent frigate bird. Visit a giant tortoise. Animals do not fear humans, making it a natural paradise and haven for naturalists escaping a busy outside world. The Galapagos Islands are at the top of the list for most experienced travellers and this 8-day yacht excursion is sure to make it a lifetime memory.

25

AMAZING AUSTRALIA March 2, 2019 — 20 days

\$13,185 pp double; \$16,075 single
5 Seats left!



Breathtaking natural landscape, vibrant cities, and friendly locals are only some of the reasons why you should travel to Australia. We start our tour in Melbourne, Australia's second largest city which has a wonderful blend of architectural heritage, modern skyscrapers, and contemporary designs. We spend four days touring the highlights in Melbourne and a full day is devoted to the Yarra Valley, east of Melbourne where we visit the Blue Lotus Water Gardens, a winery for wine tasting, and Fergusson's Winery for lunch. Another culinary treat is the Yarra Valley Chocolaterie. Next, we head west for a day exploring the incredible scenery along the Great Ocean Road to enjoy the sandy beaches of the Surf Coast, the rainforests of Otway National Park, quaint villages such as Lorne and Apollo Bay, and the renowned Twelve Apostles. From here, we fly to Adelaide, South Australia's cosmopolitan coastal capital for two nights. We take a ferry over to Kangaroo Island, South Australia's premier nature-based tourism destination. Then, get ready for an awesome journey on the legendary Ghan Train. It pulls out of Adelaide at noon for the 25-hour journey to Alice Springs. Highlights in this area are the incredible monolith of Ayers Rock and the spectacle of the sunrise in the vast Australian Outback. We fly to Cairns for a three night stay and board a catamaran for an hour-long trip out to the amazing Great Barrier Reef. Our last four nights are in Sydney. Highlights include the historic Rocks district, Darling Harbour, the Parliament House, Hyde Park, Mrs. Macquarie's Chair, Bondi Beach, and the renowned Sydney Opera House.

THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I!

REMEMBRANCE DAY CENTENNIAL AT VIMY November 1, 2018 — 14 days

\$8145 pp double; \$8840 single
discounts up to \$150 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, another 172,000 were wounded and this does not account for the many that came home suffering from 'shell shock'. 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. Other highlights include: a walking tour of Ypres, Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing, the Ramparts Military Cemetery, the In Flanders Fields Museum, Bayernwald Trenches, the Canadian Memorial at Hill 62, the Saint Charles de Potyze French Cemetery, the Saint Julien Canadian Memorial, the Irish Peace Tower, Menin Gate with Last Post Ceremony, the Somme Battlefield with Lochnagar Crater, Ulster Tower, Newfoundland Memorial Park, and Thiepval Memorial. Come and join us and we will remember them.

COMING SOON 2019!

Long Beach Storm Watching at Wickaninnish - February

Coast to Coast by Train - May

Canada Day in Ottawa - June

Inside Passage & Skeena Train - June

Wales - June 18

Scenic Switzerland by Rail - July

Scenic Railways of Colorado - September 17

FUTURE TOUR 2020!

Oberammergau Passion Play - Call us to pre-book on this tour!

CALL OUR OFFICE TO BE PUT ON OUR "INTERESTED LIST"

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.⁴

THEATRE & SHOW TOURS

COME FROM AWAY IN SEATTLE October 26, 2018 — 4 days

\$1395 pp double; \$1795 single
4 Seats left!



Come from Away is set in the week following the September 11, 2001, attacks and tells the true story of what transpired when 38 planes were ordered to land unexpectedly in the small town of Gander, Newfoundland. The characters in the musical are based on (and in most cases share the names of) real Gander residents as well as some of the 7,000 stranded travellers they housed and fed. The musical has been received by audiences and critics as a cathartic reminder of the capacity for human kindness in even the darkest of times and the triumph of humanity over hate. We stay three nights at the historic Mayflower Park Hotel. In the morning you have the choice to visit Chihuly Garden & Glass OR go on a Paramount Theatre tour. In the afternoon we go to the Paramount Theatre for the matinee performance of **On Your Feet**, the inspiring true story about heart, heritage and two people who believed in their talent and each other to become an international sensation: Gloria and Emilio Estefan. We will also visit the Museum of Flight which displays over 150 of the world's most remarkable planes.

VIVA LAS VEGAS November 14, 2018 — 5 days

\$2435 pp double; \$2875 single
discounts up to \$60 pp



We stay at the MGM Mirage, one of the outstanding hotels on the famous Las Vegas Strip. It offers 14 restaurants, cafés and delis, two gigantic free-form pools with waterfalls, lavish entertainment, spa, shopping centre, and a casino with lots of games. We will visit the Mob Museum which features the stories of the Mafia and some famous characters of Las Vegas such as Bugsy Siegel, Frank Costello, and Raymond Patriarca. Also tour Las Vegas Springs Preserve which contains a botanical garden, Origen Museum, a flashback to Las Vegas in 1905, a water-works exhibit, and an eco-friendly sustainability gallery. This tour also includes a concert at Caesar's Palace with **Celine Dion**, regarded as one of pop music's most influential voices. Please note you can opt out of the Celine Dion concert and your fare will be reduced by \$150. With a local guide, we will drive to Hoover Dam. A tour of the powerhouse is also included. Sunset is at 4:30 so we will ride the elevators to the top of the Stratosphere Tower and watch the sun go down across the Mojave Desert. Tickets to Cirque du Soleil, **Mystère** are also included. This tour offers many fantastic activities, but there is lots of free time to do as you wish.

THE LION KING IN SEATTLE January 4, 2019 — 3 days

\$930 pp double \$1125 single
discounts up to \$50 pp



The animals are back! **The Lion King** is quite simply one of the biggest phenomena that Broadway has ever seen. Giraffes strut, birds swoop, gazelles leap! The entire savanna comes to life and, as the music soars, Pride Rock slowly rises out of the stage. Marvel at the breathtaking spectacle of animals miraculously brought to life by a cast of over 40 actors. Wonder at the inspiration of award-winning director/designer Julie Taymor, as one of the most successful films in history is stunningly recreated live on stage. Thrill to the pulsating rhythms of the African Pridelands and an unforgettable score featuring songs by Elton John and Tim Rice such as *The Circle of Life*, *I Just Can't Wait to Be King*, and *Hakuna Matata*. Also included is Chihuly Garden & Glass and a locally-guided sightseeing tour around Seattle past waterfront piers, Pioneer Square, the Chittenden Locks, and the iconic Space Needle. We stay two nights at the historic Mayflower Park Hotel. It was opened in 1927 as one of the grand hotels of Seattle and has been beautifully restored.

BRANSON October 25, 2018 — 10 days

\$3925 pp double; \$4460 single
10 Seats left!



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 are: **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**. Branson is known as the "live music show capital of the world."

CANADIAN TOURS

WATERTON LAKES & CYPRESS HILLS September 18, 2018 — 9 days

\$2575 pp double; **\$3110** single
discounts up to \$50 pp



Southern Alberta has numerous attractions and, each time we offer this tour, we must select only a few to include, so the tour is often different from year to year. Cypress Hills is a naturalist's wonder with unique flora and fauna because the area was not glaciated during the last Ice Age. Other attractions celebrate history such as Coleman Museum, Frank Slide, Remington Carriage Museum, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, and Brooks Aqueduct. We stay 2 nights in one of Canada's less visited national parks, Waterton Lakes, which has rugged mountains rising from a stark prairie, surrounding an idyllic lake. Add to this Fairmont Hot Springs, the Nikka Yuko Japanese Gardens, the ancient carvings at Writing-on-Stone Park, and the emerging autumn colours, and you have the perfect fall getaway.

THANKSGIVING AT TSA-KWA-LUTEN LODGE October 4, 2018 — 4 days

\$935 pp double; **\$1140** single
discounts up to \$50 pp



Magnificent Tsa-Kwa-Luten Lodge was built by the Kwagiutl people and its vast lobby resembles a traditional "Big House" with massive timbers, a soaring cathedral ceiling, and huge windows overlooking Discovery Passage. All rooms have an ocean view. Relax on your private balcony and enjoy the panorama of the ocean, the mountains of Vancouver Island beyond, the rapidly-moving tides, and the tugboats with barges navigating this narrow waterway. Meals are served in the main dining room which has an entrancing view, and all meals are included due to the isolation of the lodge. There are walking trails along the waterfront to the lighthouse, and a more difficult trail to the bluff at Cape Mudge with a view south into the Strait of Georgia. At Rebecca Spit, we take a pleasant walk along a beach with ocean on both sides and visit the Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre. It's a wonderful place to celebrate Canadian Thanksgiving. Other highlights include a sumptuous buffet lunch at Chemainus Theatre followed by a performance of **Glorious!**

25 WELLS GRAY PARK May 31, 2019 — 5 days

\$1580 pp double; **\$1805** single
11 Seats left!



Wells Gray Park is a vast wilderness area of 1.3 million acres, nicknamed Canada's "Waterfalls Park" and the "Volcanoes Park". Early June is an excellent time to visit Wells Gray Park since the waterfalls are spectacular with their spring run-off. The tour is directed by Roland Neave, owner of Wells Gray Tours and Wells Gray Gateway Guesthouse. Roland is also the author of the guidebook *Exploring Wells Gray Park*; the 6th Edition was published in 2015 and a complimentary autographed copy of this 400-page all-colour book is yours as a souvenir of this tour. This tour is limited to 20 travellers. With a small group, the boats are able to take us up Clearwater Lake, through the Clearwater River into Azure Lake, then to the beach at the east end of Azure Lake to view Rainbow Falls. We stay three nights at the Wells Gray Inn in Clearwater. After a buffet dinner, Roland presents a slide show about Wells Gray Park, gleaned from over 50 years of exploring its roads and trails. Come and see the birthplace of Wells Gray Tours!

NORTH AMERICAN DESTINATIONS

NORTH CASCADES & OLYMPIC PENINSULA September 9, 2018 — 9 days

\$2695 pp double; **\$3495** single



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. In contrast 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 Lakewood 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.

SAN JUAN ISLANDS

September 18, 2018 — 5 days

\$1560 pp double; \$2045 single

Half full!



The San Juan Islands are an archipelago of 172 islands. Explored in 1791 by the Spanish expedition of Francisco de Eliza, these islands are rich with history, and the captain and crew tell entertaining tales of discovery, smuggling and war. We have a morning cruise on the Victoria Star 2 from Bellingham to Friday Harbor and also an afternoon cruise with lunch on board. We stay two nights at Friday Harbor Suites and enjoy a guided tour around the San Juan Islands including Lime Kiln State Park, Alpaca Ranch, English Camp, Roche Harbor Resort, the San Juan Island National Historic Park, and Westcott Bay Sculpture Park. You also have the choice between two Friday Harbor museums. The Whale Museum opened in 1979 and was the first in the country to be dedicated to a species living in the wild. The Museum of Art is committed to promoting the arts of the Pacific Northwest and Southwest British Columbia.

OREGON COAST EXPLORER

September 18, 2018 — 10 days

\$2775 pp double; \$3495 single

discounts up to \$60 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.

PALM SPRINGS WINTER ESCAPE

February 19, 2019 — 7 days



\$2865 pp double; \$3525 single

discounts up to \$120 pp



Head south to Palm Springs and spend six nights at Palm Mountain Resort which has an excellent location, a block off Palm Canyon Drive where many shops and restaurants are found. A welcome dinner is planned. We thrill to one of the city's highlights - the spectacular Palm Springs Aerial Tramway which ascends nearly 2,000 metres into the San Jacinto Mountains. We also tour Joshua Tree National Park and explore The Living Desert, a 1200-acre preserve featuring exotic birds and animals, botanical gardens, nature trails and the Wildlife Wonders show. There is a choice of one of two attractions: The Palm Springs Air Museum which features a large collection of flying World War II airplanes or The Palm Springs Art Museum which features a sophisticated collection of art, loaned or donated by the area's affluent residents. There is also a free afternoon plus a full day to relax, enjoy the sunshine and activities of your own choosing.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS TOURS!

LEAVENWORTH CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

November 28, 2018 — 4 days

\$1065 pp double **\$1335** single

Filling fast!



The beauty of the Christmas season joins with the quaint Bavarian theme to create a magical experience in Leavenworth. Browse the shops, savour the pastries, and enjoy the entertainment. All the buildings are decorated and adorned with lights, so in the evening the town seems like a fairyland setting. This tour stays two nights at the lovely Enzian Inn, located across from Leavenworth's town square and is convenient to the shops. Highlights include a Christmas concert by Leavenworth's acclaimed harpist Bronn Journey, an option for a sleigh or wagon ride at Red Tail Canyon Farm and a trip to the Aplets & Cotlets factory in nearby Cashmere. We then drive into downtown Seattle and stay over-night at the historic Hotel Ändra with shopping at Alderwood Mall. We go to the 5th Avenue Theatre to see **Annie**.

CHRISTMAS IN SEATTLE

December 22, 2018 — 5 days

\$2145 pp double **\$2535** single

discounts up to \$100 pp



Join Wells Gray Tours this holiday season for a relaxing get-away to the historic Hotel Ändra. Now one of Seattle's premier luxury hotels, the building first opened in 1926 as efficiency apartments and became a boutique hotel in the 1970s, then was completely recreated to become Hotel Ändra. It has an excellent location at the corner of 4th and Virginia, surrounded by shops and restaurants. Along with three outstanding shows (The Lion King, Annie and The Nutcracker), and a choice of two top rated Seattle attractions (Museum of History & Industry OR Seattle Art Museum), this Christmas getaway offers plenty of opportunities to relax with your fellow travellers, enjoying the company of old and new friends alike.

CHRISTMAS IN VANCOUVER

December 23, 2018 — 5 days

\$1770 pp double **\$2160** single

discounts up to \$80 pp



Join Wells Gray Tours this holiday season for a relaxing get-away for four nights at the renowned Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. The Hotel Vancouver has an excellent location on West Georgia Street, surrounded by dozens of interesting shops and restaurants, and a block from Pacific Centre Mall. Our festive Christmas Dinner at Hotel Vancouver is an extravagant buffet accompanied by wine. Three shows are included **It's a Wonderful Life**, **Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley**, and **Beauty and the Beast**. Attractions are Museum of Anthropology, Bloedel Conservatory, and Vancouver Aquarium. This Christmas getaway offers plenty of opportunities to relax with your fellow travellers, enjoying the company of old and new friends alike.

25

NEW YEAR'S ON CATALINA ISLAND

December 28, 2018 — 8 days

\$4325 pp double; **\$5435** single

discounts up to \$200 pp



Wells Gray Tours is excited to offer a very unique experience, ringing in the New Year of 2019 at a Gala Ball on Santa Catalina Island off the coast of California. The event is the 46th Annual New Year's Eve Celebration, staged in the magnificent ballroom at the historic Catalina Casino on Avalon's waterfront. Catalina Island is reached by an hour-long fast ferry ride from Long Beach south of Los Angeles. During our 3½ days and 4 nights on the island, we take a drive across the scenic hills, savour a culinary walking tour of Avalon, stroll the Wrigley Botanical Gardens, take an interior tour of the iconic Catalina Casino, and explore island history at the Catalina Museum. This will be a memorable New Year's to celebrate the arrival of the last year of the 2010s decade.

NEW YEAR'S IN VANCOUVER

December 31, 2018 — 3 days

\$970 pp double; **\$1195** single

discounts up to \$50 pp



Ring in 2019 in style with two shows and three nights at the Listel Hotel in Vancouver. We go to Canada Place to experience **Fly Over Canada** and have a free evening to visit family and friends. A three-course New Year's Dinner is included in Gastown at the popular Steamworks Grill. A ticket to **It's a Wonderful Life** at the Gateway Theatre is included. On January 1, we enjoy the annual performance of **Salute to Vienna** which has been billed as the world's greatest New Year's concert. The show has become a New Year's tradition in North America featuring glorious music performed by the Vancouver Symphony with an outstanding cast of 75 musicians, singers and dancers. We have reserved superb seats at the ornate Orpheum Theatre in Right and Left Centre Orchestra.

EXOTIC CRUISING

MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE

April 11, 2019 — 18 days

from **\$10,275** pp double; from **\$13,900** single
8 Seats left!



We start this tour by flying to New Orleans and stay three nights at the Wyndham Hotel, located in the French Quarter. There is something magical about the energy in New Orleans. This city will put a spell on you like no other American city. The food is bold and flavourful, the music is loud and soulful, and history is on display on every corner. Highlights include: Maison Bourbon Dixieland Club with drink, Mardi Gras World, historic tour of Oak Alley Plantation, and the New Orleans School of Cooking. We then board the American Queen for 7 days which is said to be the largest river steamboat ever built. She is a six-deck recreation of a classic Mississippi riverboat, built by McDermott Shipyard for the Delta Queen Steamboat Company. The American Queen has 222 staterooms for a capacity of 436 guests and a crew of 160. The Mississippi River rises in Lake Itasca in Minnesota and flows 3,734 km to the Gulf of Mexico. Along the way, it gathers major tributaries such as the Missouri River and Ohio River. As history plays such a large part of your cruise experience, the Riverlorian (an expert guide on board) imparts the history and lore of the Mississippi River. There is also a diverse lineup of guest historians who take to the stage and transport you to another era. These noted speakers offer astounding insights on the culture and heritage of America's Heartland and the Deep South. Relive a tale from Mark Twain for an enchanted evening and you will retire to your room convinced that you've just had a conversation with history.

4 GREAT RIVERS OF EUROPE

June 16, 2019 — 20 days

from **\$15,240** pp double; from **\$21,485** single
8 Seats left!



Roland and Anne Neave invite you to join them for this exciting 6th President's Cruise from Luxembourg to Budapest on the Moselle, Rhine, Main, and Danube Rivers. With 14 days on 4 different rivers of Europe, this amazing cruise on Avalon's *Imagery II* takes in a wonderful variety of sights. We start in Remich, Luxembourg, and cruise down the Moselle River for 2 days to the Rhine, then upstream on the Rhine and the Main Rivers for 4 days.

NORTHWEST PASSAGE EXPEDITION CRUISE

from **\$23,750** pp double; from **\$23,960** single
August 16, 2019 — 19 days

11 Seats left!



The Northwest Passage represents the pinnacle of Arctic exploration. On this trip, like the explorers before us, we experience the quaint villages, dramatic fjords, and calving glaciers of Greenland. After crossing Davis Strait, we visit Qikiqtaurjuaq, the iceberg capital of Nunavut, and pay respects at the Franklin Expedition graves on Beechey Island. Somerset and Devon Islands offer opportunities to spot caribou, polar bear, walrus, and muskox, and for visits to ghostly RCMP and Hudson's Bay posts. Parry Channel and Peel Sound afford a passage to Queen Maud Gulf and onward along Victoria Island to our destination, Kugluktuk, the end of our epic journey above the Arctic Circle. To sail the Northwest Passage is to sail living history. Meet the Inuit who have called this remarkable place home for generations. Attend daily presentations on the ship and listen to experts in many fields related to the Northwest Passage and the Arctic. Explore secluded bays and channels using the ship's fleet of zodiacs and get very close to stunning glaciers and icebergs. Join the ranks of the adventurers who have been lured by the legends of the Northwest Passage.

We spend 17 days on board the Ocean Endeavour which 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 nine decks with six of them open to passengers. The ship carries 198 passengers. Expedition staff are experts on the Arctic including geology, glaciation, 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 are also on-deck barbeques and afternoon tea. **Early booking discounts of \$1200 available until September 30! Additional loyalty discounts for customers who have previously taken an Adventure Canada cruise are also available.**

CRUISES 2018 & 2019



Holland America Line®
SAVOR THE JOURNEY

MONTREAL TO FLORIDA CRUISE

October 11, 2018 — 19 days

from **\$7375** pp double; from **\$9420** single
4 Seats left!



Come cruise on the Rotterdam in the Maritimes and 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.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

January 20, 2019 — 16 days

from **\$5760** pp double; from **\$8260** single
discounts up to \$160 pp



We fly from Seattle to Fort Lauderdale and spend two nights at the Embassy Suites which has a convenient location downtown between the airport and cruise terminal. There is a free day to relax around the hotel or visit the many shops and restaurants nearby. Then treat yourself to an 11-day cruise aboard Holland America Line's newest ship, MS Koningsdam, which made her grand entrance into the cruising world in 2016. Savour a vacation defined by enriching activities, fine cuisine, room to move and intuitive personal service. You are sure to create memorable adventures on your Caribbean cruise that will inspire you for a lifetime. Life on the islands offers more than awe-inspiring views of vast blue waters and hilly scenery. Each port city has its own unique flavour and rhythm. The ports of call on this tour are Philipsburg in Saint Maarten, Castries in Saint Lucia, St. Thomas in US Virgin Islands, St. John's in Antigua, Bridgetown in Barbados, Fort-De-France in Martinique, and Half Moon Cay in the Bahamas.

MEXICAN RIVIERA CRUISE

January 22, 2019 — 13 days

from **\$4125** pp double; from **\$5375** single
Half full!



Fly to Palm Springs and spend three nights at the excellent location of Palm Mountain Resort. We thrill to one of the city's highlights - the spectacular Palm Springs Aerial Tramway which ascends nearly 2,000 metres into the San Jacinto Mountains. We also tour Joshua Tree National Park and go to Palm Canyon Theatre for a show. We stop in San Diego for two days of sightseeing including a visit to the Safari Park, a cruise around the busy San Diego harbour including: the lofty Coronado Bridge, the shipyards, Point Loma, and the Naval Air Station. Afterwards we visit the Maritime Museum on the waterfront which features many nautical displays and three historic ships including the Star of India, the world's oldest active ship. From here we board Holland America's Eurodam for a seven-night cruise. Our first port is Cabo San Lucas situated at the southern tip of the Baja Peninsula. Overnight we cruise east to the mainland of Mexico and dock for a full day in Mazatlan. Our last port of call along the Mexican Riviera is the original colonial town of Puerto Vallarta. We have two relaxing days at sea before docking in San Diego and flying home on Westjet to Calgary, connecting to Victoria.

* 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.

PANAMA CANAL CRUISE

April 10, 2019 — 24 days

from \$8130 pp double; from \$11,360 single

discounts up to \$250 pp



A dream more than 400 years in the making, the Panama Canal opened in 1914 and this epic man-made marvel changed the world in the process. A Panama Canal expert is on board to explain its history and technical operations as your ship passes through the locks. Enjoy 21 days aboard the Oosterdam. Before boarding the ship we fly to Fort Lauderdale and stay two nights at the Embassy Suites near the airport and cruise terminal. Then during our first two days at sea, we sail between Cuba and Haiti to enter the Caribbean Sea. We also cross the Tropic of Cancer. Ashore there is everything from Costa Rican rainforests to Old World cities like Cartagena that recall the Age of Exploration. Locally guided tours in Cartagena, Panama City, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Guatemala are included. Our tour in Costa Rica features a boat trip on the Tarcoles River and Guacalillo Estuary. We see one of the world's largest colonies of crocodiles, the richest mangrove forest in the mid-Pacific Coast, and the country's most important conservation area for the scarlet macaw. We enjoy a locally guided tour to the colonial city of Leon in Nicaragua and in Guatemala we take a trip up to the highlands and the picturesque town of Antigua.

NORWAY FJORDS CRUISE

July 3, 2019 — 20 days

from \$10,195 pp double; from \$14,185 single

discounts up to \$250 pp



We travel to Vancouver and stay overnight at the Pacific Gateway Hotel near the airport before flying to Amsterdam. We stay for two nights here and visit Dam Square with the impressive Royal Palace, the New Church, the canals, Waterloo Square, the renowned Rijksmuseum and explore the city via a narrated canal cruise, passing gabled warehouses, arched bridges, noble mansions, and colourful houseboats. We then board Holland America Line's newest ship, MS Nieuw Statendam, which will make her grand entrance into the cruising world in December 2018. During the first day of our cruise, we sail across the North Sea to Norway. Highlights include: the Vøringsfossen Waterfalls, Hardangervidda Nature Centre, Gamle Bryggen Museum, Fløibanen funicular up Mount Fløyen, Cathedral and Archbishop's Palace, North Cape Visitor Centre and Museum, National Park with Nigardsbreen Glacier, Breheim Visitors Centre and Park Centre, Train excursion from Flåm to Myrdal and return, Flåm Railway Museum, and Olav's church and Viking Farm. Locally guided tours are included in Måbødalen Valley, Bergen, Ålesund, Jostedalsbreen, and Haugesund. Come and enjoy a spectacular cruise of the Norway Fjords on Holland America's magnificent new ship.

ROAD TO THE ARCTIC

August 2, 2019 — 24 days

from \$8910 pp double; from \$11,690 single

10 Seats left!



Come enjoy colourful foliage, pleasantly warm days and cool nights, and possibly the aurora borealis in the breathtaking Arctic. We start our tour by flying to Yellowknife, the capital and largest community of the Northwest Territories. We stay two nights and enjoy a locally-guided tour which features the highlights of Yellowknife, followed by a boat trip on Great Slave Lake with a fish fry lunch served on an island. We then start our road journey across the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and Alaska. Highlights include: The Prince of Wales Museum, a scenic flight to Nahanni National Park with landing at Virginia Falls, Naturalist walk at Muncho Lake, swim at Liard Hot Springs, SS Klondike: National Historic Site, Yukon Beringia Centre, a tour to Tombstone, driving on the new road from Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk, a locally-guided tour of Tuktoyaktuk, a visit to an Inuit home in Tuktoyaktuk with traditional lunch and Inuit fashion show, goldpanning on Bonanza Creek, and the Diamond Tooth Gerties with a show. We drive around Turnagain Arm onto the Kenai Peninsula. At Seward, we say goodbye to our driver and board Holland America's Westerdam for a 7 day cruise back to Vancouver. We cruise across the Gulf of Alaska, through Glacier Bay, enjoy port stops in Haines, Juneau, and Ketchikan and cruise south through the stunning Inside Passage.

*** NOTE FOR ALL CRUISES ***

Early booking is essential. Unsold staterooms are taken away by the cruise company

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