

# SUNSHINE COAST TREASURES

September 16, 2019 - 6 Days



a world to experience



## Fares Per Person:

**\$2095** double/twin

**\$2470** single

**\$2010** triple



> Please add 5% GST.

> **Early Bookers:** \$100 discount on first 8 seats; \$50 on next 4

> **Seniors (65 and over):** \$10 discount with BC Services Card

> **Experience Points:** Earn 50 points from this tour.

Redeem **50 points** if you book by **July 31**.

## \* HIGHLIGHTS \*

**Agamemnon Channel cruise**

**First Nations program "Talking Trees" at Sechelt**

**Princess Louisa Fjord cruise with Chatterbox Falls**

**Historic village of Lund**

**Desolation Sound cruise**

## Includes

- Coach transportation for 6 days
- 5 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Ferry from Nanaimo to Horseshoe Bay
- Ferry from Horseshoe Bay to Langdale
- Locally-guided tour of Gibsons and Sechelt
- Agamemnon Channel cruise
- First Nations cultural program "Talking Trees"
- Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden
- Tems Swiya Museum
- Day cruise to Princess Louisa Fjord
- Ferry across Jervis Inlet
- Desolation Sound cruise
- Locally-guided walking tour of Lund
- Lund Art Gallery
- Tour of Powell River
- Ferry from Powell River to Comox
- Gratuities for crew on all boat tours
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **10 meals:** 5 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners

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## Tour Notes

**Cruise Vessels** — The Agamemnon Channel cruise and the Princess Louisa Fjord cruise are operated with two vessels, each carrying about 12 passengers. Both have indoor seating. The Desolation Sound cruise utilizes two or three small open vessels and there will be morning and afternoon departures on September 20. There are no restrooms on any of these boats.

**Capacity of the tour** — This tour is limited to 24 passengers to ensure comfort for everyone on the vessels.

**Accommodation** — Despite the Sunshine Coast being so close to the metropolitan area of Vancouver, it does not attract crowds of tourists. Therefore, accommodation choices are very limited. Please do not expect luxury hotels, although we have selected two of the better ones in this area — Driftwood Inn in Sechelt and Beach Gardens Resort in Powell River. Both are located on the waterfront.



**Activity Level:** Moderate activity including short distances to walk, such as on docks to and from the vessels and the short trail to Chatterbox Falls. Ramps onto docks can be steep at low tide. There are some stairs, mainly getting in and out of the vessels. The boat tour to Desolation Sound utilizes open boats, so this trip will be cancelled if weather is inclement. The coach cannot carry a scooter. If you are not able to participate in Activity Level 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. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour.

## Itinerary

### Monday, September 16:

*Meals: D*

After pickups around Victoria, we drive north on the Island Highway and take the 11 am ferry from Nanaimo to Horseshoe Bay. A second ferry carries us across Howe Sound to Langdale. Welcome to the Sunshine Coast! We continue to **Sechelt** and stay three nights at the Driftwood Inn on the waterfront. Meet your fellow travellers at a get-acquainted dinner.

### Tuesday, September 17:

*Meals: B,D*

A local guide shows us the highlights of the southern **Sunshine Coast**. In Gibsons, we stop for photos at Molly's Reach, the famous restaurant seen by millions of viewers on CBC's **The Beachcombers** which ran for 19 seasons from 1972 to 1990. The tugboat *Persephone* has been restored and is displayed nearby. This afternoon, we drive to Egmont where Sechelt Inlet joins Jervis Inlet. We board two small vessels for a scenic cruise through **Agamemnon Channel** south to Garden Bay. Steep rock walls rise 150 metres from the water, and some 2000-metre high peaks are visible. We stop at several pictographs, probably drawn centuries ago by Shíshálh people, and you can speculate on their meaning. A gourmet dinner specializing in local seafood is included at Garden Bay.

### Wednesday, September 18:

*Meals: B*

A First Nations guide presents a cultural program "**Talking Trees**" which shares the stories of the Coast Salish people, the land, and the harmonious ways of living. This afternoon, we stroll through

the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden in Sechelt. Next is the **Tems Swiya Museum** which exhibits an extensive collection of artifacts and cultural materials belonging to the Shíshálh Nation. 'tems swiya' means 'our world' and today the museum is central in the presentation, preservation, conservation, and protection of Shíshálh cultural heritage.

### Thursday, September 19:

*Meals: B,L,D*

This is a day of dramatic sights as we explore one of British Columbia's best known fjords. Leaving Egmont, we cruise for two hours up **Jervis Inlet** past soaring peaks and waterfalls that cascade directly into the ocean. Malibu Narrows is the location of historic **Malibu Lodge**, an impressive log structure that was an exclusive retreat for Hollywood celebrities in the 1940s and is now a popular church camp. The narrows mark the entrance to **Princess Louisa Fjord** and, from here on, the sheer cliffs rise a thousand metres out of the water. The vessels dock at the upper end of the fjord and we have time ashore to admire the thundering cascade of **Chatterbox Falls**. Princess Louisa was Queen Victoria's mother, but the native name "Sway-oo-lat" means "facing the rising sun's rays". A picnic lunch is served at the falls. After returning to Egmont, we ride the ferry across Jervis Inlet to Saltery Bay then drive into **Powell River** for a stay of two nights at the oceanfront Beach Gardens Resort. Tonight, take a stroll beside the ocean and enjoy the splendid setting.

**Friday, September 20:***Meals: B,L*

We drive to the end of Highway 101 at Lund which is the jumping-off point for boat excursions into **Desolation Sound**. British Columbia's largest marine park, established in 1973, attracts recreational boaters from around the world because of its magnificent scenery, pleasant summer climate, numerous sheltered harbours, and the snow-capped peaks of the Coast Mountains which rise over 2,400 metres from the water. Captain George Vancouver saw it differently in 1792 when he described these waters as "forlorn" and "desolate". Our three-hour excursion from Lund visits sights such as Squirrel Cove, Roscoe Bay, and

Copeland Islands. Two boats are used, both are open-air and do not have a bathroom. The small size, maneuverability, and minimal draft allow the boats to enter narrow passages. This excursion will be cancelled if conditions are inclement. Lunch is included in **Lund**, then there is a locally-guided walk around Lund including an art gallery.

**Saturday, September 21:***Meals: B*

A local guide shows us around Powell River and there is time to browse through the Saturday Farmer's Market. We take a noon ferry to **Comox**, then drive down Vancouver Island to Victoria.

## Tour Policies

**Payments:** A deposit of \$200 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due July 31, 2019. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

**Discounts:** Early bookers receive \$100 discount on first 8 seats and \$50 on next 4 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after July 31. BC seniors (65 & over) receive \$10 discount extended by BC Ferries, so you must bring your BC Services Card.

**Cancellation Policy:** Up to June 28, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From June 29 to July 31, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From August 1 to August 15, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. After August 15, there is no refund.

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

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

**Photo Credit:** Roland Neave (Princess Louisa Fjord)

**E-points:** This tour earns 50 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until July 31.

**Consumer Protection BC Licence: #65842**