

SABLE ISLAND & ATLANTIC CANADA CRUISE

11 days on board *Ocean Endeavour*

June 13, 2020 - 14 Days



a world to experience



Fares Per Person: based on double/twin

\$9,415 Inside Category 3

\$10,720 Outside Category 4

\$12,030 Outside Category 5



tour
a more intimate travel experience

- > Please add 0.6% GST
- > \$170 single supplement, limited number of cabins, book early
- > Other categories may be available.
- > **Experience Points:** Earn 155 points from this tour.
Redeem **155 points** if you book by **February 12.**

* HIGHLIGHTS & PORTS *

St. John's, Newfoundland
Saint-Pierre, Territory of France
Cheticamp, Cape Breton Island
Fortress of Louisbourg
Bay of Fundy

Grand Manan Island
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia
Sable Island
Gully Marine Protected Area

Includes

- Return flight from Victoria to St. John's, NL
- 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 and Signal Hill National Historic Sites
- Transfer from Delta St. John's to airport
- Charter flight from St. John's to Saint-Pierre
- 11 days on board *Ocean Endeavour*
- Gratuities for ship crew, guides and naturalists
- Lectures, expert guides, resource staff and other services on board ship
- Discovery Fund Fee (US\$250)
- Transfer from ship to St. John's Airport
- Wells Gray tour director on Days 1 and 2
- Luggage handling at hotels and ship
- **34 meals:** 11 breakfasts, 11 lunches, 12 dinners

102 - 736 Broughton Street
Victoria, BC V8W 1E1
www.wellsgraytours.com

victoria@wellsgraytours.com
Toll Free > 888-595-7889
Phone: > 250-590-7889



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 nine decks with six of them open to passengers. The ship carries 198 passengers. There is a variety of cabins ranging from Insides to Outsides and Suites. The outside cabins have portholes or 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, Nautilus Lounge where most lectures are held, the Library, gift shop, and outdoor pool are on Deck 6. A hot tub is on Deck 7, a gymnasium and sauna on Deck 8, and an observation lounge on Deck 9.

Expedition staff are experts on Atlantic Canada 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 barbecues and afternoon tea. Coffee, tea and snacks are available 24 hours a day. Hors d'oeuvres and 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 expedition-style voyages, the *Ocean Endeavour* may be full for this cruise months in advance. Wells Gray Tours has a few cabins in categories 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Single fares 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 some remote places on this itinerary. 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.
- A passport is required as you are travelling on an internationally registered ship and entering a foreign country (Saint-Pierre).
- A Wells Gray tour director will accompany travellers from either Kelowna or Kamloops airports and will be with everybody from Toronto to St. John's (based on preliminary flight plans). She/he will be with you during the St. John's tour on June 14 and will attend the Adventure Canada reception and briefing that evening. On June 15, you will be in Adventure Canada's capable hands for the flight to Saint-Pierre and cruise. There is no tour director with you for the flight home on June 26.
- A detailed brochure about packing tips, the ship, and shore excursions will be available later.
- The planned itinerary is on the next two pages, but many factors such as weather and sea conditions can cause changes to the route or the shore excursions.

Itinerary

Thursday, June 13:

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. A Wells Gray tour director is with you most of today and tomorrow to assist with the flight, hotel and local sightseeing.

Friday, June 14:

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 an amazing sheltered 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 Atlantic Canada cruising adventure for the next 11 days. Afterwards, join the other Wells Gray travellers for a traditional Newfoundland **Jiggs Dinner**.

Saturday, June 15:

Meals: L,D

We board a charter flight to **Saint-Pierre**, an island off the south coast of Newfoundland. A transfer is provided from the airport to the dock where the **Ocean Endeavour** is waiting. Paired with Miquelon, these two islands are an official territory of the French Republic. The colourful town of Saint-Pierre makes a charming beginning to our trip. Winding streets lined with shops, houses, and cafes bring a taste of Europe to the east coast of North America. Be sure to have a good vantage point on deck when the ship casts off and heads out into Cabot Strait. Savour your first fine dinner in the Polaris Restaurant and a "Welcome Aboard" event in the Nautilus Lounge.

Sunday, June 16:

Meals: B,L,D

Today we call at **Cape Breton Island**, a fiercely independent region of Nova Scotia. Our destination is the fishing village of Chéticamp. The busy harbour, rug-hooking museum, local shops and restaurants offer a taste of Acadian heritage in a thoroughly bilingual town. Nearby Cape Breton Highlands National Park is noted for scenery and wildlife. With favourable conditions, a hike along the magnificent Skyline Trail is offered.

Monday, June 17:

Meals: B,L,D

We spend the day at the **Fortress of Louisbourg** on the east coast of Cape Breton Island. In the struggle between English and French colonial powers for control of what is now Canada, the French Fortress of Louisbourg played a pivotal role. Established in 1720, the fortifications were captured by the British in 1745, returned to the French, captured again in 1758 and then destroyed. Reconstructed in the 1960s and 1970s, the fortress is a National Historic Site, offering a fascinating glimpse into military colonial Canada.

Tuesday, June 18:

Meals: B,L,D

Nova Scotia's southwestern coast provides habitat for seabirds and marine mammals in abundance. During today's cruise, we are seeking opportune sea and weather conditions to observe the wildlife in this region.

Wednesday, June 19:

Meals: B,L,D

Thursday, June 20:

Meals: B,L,D

Friday, June 21:

Meals: B,L,D

The rugged coastline of the **Bay of Fundy** is renowned for its world-record tidal range, often as great as 10 metres on the same day. Along the southeastern shore of the bay lie peninsulas, mountains, and picturesque inlets. It is also home to a great variety of marine mammals and seabirds. The area borders Nova Scotia's French shore where Acadian influence is strong. The founding of Port Royal in 1605 by the French and their Mi'kmaq allies, and the conquest of Acadia by England in 1713 shows how the region was hotly contested. Three islands — **Grand Manan**, Campobello, and Deer — are situated at the mouth of the Bay of Fundy adjacent to the USA border. Campobello has a bridge to Maine, but the others are served by ferries to New Brunswick. The islands feature historic sites, including a park jointly run by Canada and the USA. Viewing of birds, marine creatures, Fundy tides, and great scenery round out the activities.

Saturday, June 22:

Meals: B,L,D

The port of **Lunenburg** once harboured a fleet of sailing vessels, including the famous Bluenose. Old Town Lunenburg was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995. British colonial town plans ignored topography, making for several very steep streets. St. John's Anglican Church, the Lunenburg Academy, the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, and dozens of shops and galleries line the hilly streets around this splendid harbour town. We spend the afternoon exploring its treasures!

Sunday, June 23:

Meals: B,L,D

Monday, June 24:

Meals: B,L,D

Sable Island is a crescent-shaped sandbar with a surface area of about 34 sq km (13 sq miles), a length of 42 km, and a width of 1.5 km at its broadest point. It emerges from vast shoals and shallows on the continental shelf which, in tandem with the area's frequent fog and sudden strong storms have caused over 350 recorded shipwrecks. Sable Island is home to only four humans (all government employees), but thousands of birds including the endemic Ipswich sparrow, hundreds of grey seals, and the world-famous **Sable Island wild horses**, numbering about 500. The entire island is protected as a National Park Reserve. Unique weather conditions prevail at Sable Island, so two days have been scheduled here to allow us to maximize opportunities to explore the dunes, cruise the shores, and view the wildlife. We also learn firsthand about Sable Island's fascinating human history.

Tuesday, June 25:

Meals: B,L,D

En route to Newfoundland, join our wildlife spotters on deck, watching for seabirds and marine mammals. We cross **The Gully Marine Protected Area** where the sea floor suddenly drops a dizzying 2½ km into a submarine valley. The Gully is one of the most prominent undersea features in Atlantic Canada and its unique ecology has attracted the interest of Parks Canada and environmental researchers. This is due to its significant coral communities, its diversity of both shallow and deep-water fish, and its many whales and dolphins. The *Ocean Endeavour* resource staff, scientists, historians, musicians, and artists continue to engage us with workshops, presentations, and entertainment throughout the day. We are immersed in the spirit of the East Coast all the way to St. John's!

Wednesday, June 26:

Meals: B

The *Ocean Endeavour* passes through the Narrows into the harbour of **St. John's** with Signal Hill rising to the north. We disembark in mid-morning. A transfer is provided to the airport for our homeward flights.

Tour Policies

Payments: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due February 12, 2020. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to February 12, 2020, your tour payments will be refunded less a cruise line fee of \$800 per person. From February 13 to March 12, the cancellation charge is 65% of the tour fare. After March 12, there is no refund. Be sure that your travel insurance policy covers these penalties.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from the airlines, cruise line and other tour suppliers can occur at any time. The cruise fare and charter flight to Saint-Pierre are charged to Wells Gray Tours in US dollars, and exchange rates are impossible to predict a year in advance when this tour was arranged. 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.

Photo Credit: Adventure Canada (Sable Island wild horses)

Activity Level: This tour is very active including getting in and out of zodiacs, and walking on 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 registration form about this tour, so you can assess whether you are capable of handling the activity. This tour is not appropriate for people with walkers, and scooters cannot be used. 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 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.

E-points: This tour earns 155 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 February 12.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842



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This tour is rated “Activity Level 3” by the tour planners at Wells Gray Tours. This rating is the highest activity level assigned to a tour, meaning that there is a lot of activity which could include one or more of (but is not limited to) the following:

- You can walk 3 kilometres in 1 hour.
- You can climb into a zodiac and step out into a few inches of water with waterproof boots.
- You can walk on beaches with sand or rock and on tundra with a spongy surface.
- You can access boat docks or use a ship gangway that may have a steep walkway at low tide.
- You can climb up to 3 flights of stairs on the ship to access Decks 7, 8 and 9.
- You can carry your own luggage in airports.

Since a few people who are not capable of doing the above activities can hold up the entire group, Wells Gray Tours expects everybody booking a tour with “Activity Level 3” to be reasonably fit. You must be able to participate in activities without the assistance of the ship’s crew or other travellers.

Please read the following and sign acknowledging that these statements are true. The tour deposit will be due after you have signed this statement.

- I want to travel on a Wells Gray tour with a rating of “Activity Level 3”.
- I have read the brochure with the full itinerary and description of the activities that are typical on this tour.
- I understand that this is the highest activity level that a Wells Gray tour can be rated.
- I am confident that I can participate in tour activities at this level and I will not hold up or delay the other members of the tour.
- I do not require the use of a wheelchair or a walker.
- If my physical condition changes between booking and departure date such that I can no longer do this level of activity, I will notify the Wells Gray office or agent. The specified penalties will apply for cancelling and insurance may cover this.
- If I am not capable of keeping up with the group or I require frequent assistance, I understand that the ship’s officers or Adventure Canada staff have the right to stop me from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. This may require me to stay on the ship and not go ashore at some ports, and I realize that travel insurance will probably not cover me.

This statement has been implemented by Wells Gray Tours to maintain high quality itineraries, accurate timing, and the enjoyment of all tour participants. Each person booking this tour must sign this statement. Thank you for your understanding.

Signature _____ Name _____ Date _____