



CHRISTMAS IN VANCOUVER

December 21, 2020 – 6 Days

Staying at Granville Island Hotel

This tour stays all five nights at Granville Island Hotel, a charming boutique hotel located on False Creek at the east end of Granville Island. The hotel is surrounded by dozens of interesting shops and restaurants, including many art galleries, craft shops, and Christmas stores. Stroll the waterfront boardwalks, relax in the Jacuzzi, or ride the Aquabus across False Creek to downtown Vancouver.

Some highlights are the paddlewheeler on the Fraser River with afternoon tea, cruising the harbour in the parade of the Christmas Carol Ships, the Christmas lights at VanDusen Gardens, and the flowers in the Bloedel Conservatory.

Come and enjoy Christmas 2020 in Vancouver!

Activity Level: 1



TOUR

30

11 Meals Included:

4 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 2 lunches, 1 tea, 3 dinners

Fares per person:

\$2,155 double/twin, \$2,740 single, \$1,995 triple
Please add 5% GST.

Early Bookers:

\$100 discount on first 10 seats; \$50 on next 6

Experience Points:

Earn 50 points on this tour

Redeem 50 points if you book by November 2



Museum of Anthropology

ITINERARY

Day 1: Monday, December 21

We drive to Vancouver and settle into the charming **Granville Island Hotel** for our five-night stay. This boutique hotel is located on False Creek at the east end of Granville Island. Amenities include a waterfront restaurant, sauna and jacuzzi. Granville Island has many art galleries, craft shops, and Christmas stores within easy walking distance.

Meals included: Lunch

Accommodation: Granville Island Hotel

Day 2: Tuesday, December 22

Breakfast is included each day at the hotel. This morning, we go to **Museum of Anthropology**, housed in a stunning Arthur Erickson structure with exquisite First Nations artifacts and exhibits, including Bill Reid's famous sculpture "The Raven and the First Men". This afternoon, we board the MV Native **paddlewheeler** for an excursion on the Fraser River with afternoon tea served. We sail along the waterfront of New Westminster and Surrey, and underneath three bridges, including Port Mann and Pattullo. The captain has lots of stories to tell about sights and historical places along the "Mighty Fraser". Tonight, we go to **VanDusen Gardens' Festival of Lights** and admire the spectacle of thousands of Christmas lights, the dancing lights on the lake, a giant decorated tree, Candy Cane Lane, and a choir concert.

Meals included: Breakfast, Tea

Accommodation: Granville Island Hotel

Day 3: Wednesday, December 23

We stroll through **Bloedel Floral Conservatory** in Queen Elizabeth Park. The triodetic dome was erected in 1969 and named for one of its biggest donors, Prentice Bloedel of MacMillan Bloedel Lumber Company. The conservatory contains three habitats: tropical rainforest, subtropical rainforest, and desert. Over 200 birds of various species reside within the dome and fly freely. The conservatory houses about 500 species of plants from jungle to desert climates.

Two attractions are offered in the afternoon; please choose one by final payment.

- 1) **Vancouver Art Gallery** houses a permanent collection of more than 10,000 pieces with an abundance of works by artists of this region. BC's finest artists are showcased such as Emily Carr, E.J. Hughes, Maxwell Bates, Toni Onley, Jack Shadbolt, Bertram Charles Binning, Gordon Smith, Alistair Bell, Takao Tanabe, and Robert Davidson.
- 2) **BC Sports Hall of Fame** celebrates extraordinary achievement in BC sports history and inspires future generations to make their dreams come true. The collection of 27,000 artifacts represents 150 years of sporting accomplishments in BC. Since 1966, 406 individuals and 63 teams have been inducted into the Hall.

Later we join the **Christmas Carol Ships Parade** through Burrard Inlet, under Lions Gate Bridge, past Stanley Park, and into False Creek. Our ship is beautifully decorated inside and out with hundreds of colourful lights and you are sure to also admire the decorations of other vessels in the procession. Sing along to recorded Christmas music or simply sit back and enjoy the sights and sounds of the season unfolding around you.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Granville Island Hotel

Day 4: Thursday, December 24

We visit the **Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden**, an authentic representation of a Ming Dynasty Garden. After a guided tour, we are introduced to the Chinese art of preparing, serving and drinking tea in a traditional tea ceremony. Two attractions are offered in the afternoon; please choose one by final payment.

- 1) **Maritime Museum** — Explore the maritime history of Vancouver and the BC Coast, and see the RCMP vessel *St. Roch* which was the first to sail eastbound through the Northwest Passage in 1940-42.

- 2) **MacMillan Space Centre** — Founded in 1968, this astronomy museum offers live demonstrations on science in the GroundStation Theatre, exhibits and games in the Cosmic Courtyard, and astronomy shows in the Planetarium.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Granville Island Hotel

Day 5: December 25 – Merry Christmas

Expect a gift from Santa during a delectable brunch in the Dockside Restaurant at the hotel. The afternoon is leisure time, then we savour an extravagant Christmas Dinner.

Meals included: Brunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Granville Island Hotel

Day 6: Saturday, December 26


We travel home with good memories of our Christmas stay in Vancouver.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Coach transportation for 5 days
- 5 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Museum of Anthropology
- Fraser River paddlewheeler cruise with afternoon tea
- VanDusen Gardens Festival of Lights
- Bloedel Floral Conservatory
- Choice of Vancouver Art Gallery OR BC Sports Hall of Fame
- Dinner cruise with Christmas Carol Ships
- Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden with tea ceremony
- Choice of Maritime Museum OR MacMillan Space Centre
- Gratuities for Paddlewheeler and Carol Ships
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotel
- **11 meals:** 4 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 2 lunches, 1 tea, 3 dinners

TOUR NOTES

 **Activity Level 1:** Light activity including short distances to walk and some stairs. There is a short walk from coach to dock for the Carol Ships. You can do a short or long walk at VanDusen Gardens. The coach cannot carry a scooter. If you think you may have difficulty participating in Activity Level 1, 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.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$300 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due November 2, 2020. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$100 discount on first 10 seats and \$50 on next 6 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after November 2.

Cancellation Policy: Up to September 25, 2020, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From September 26 to November 2, the cancellation charge is \$200 per person. From November 3 to November 16, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. From November 17 to November 30, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After November 30, there is no refund.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from tour suppliers can occur at any time 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, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Photo Credits: Granville Island Hotel, MV Native Paddlewheeler, Museum of Anthropology

Experience 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 November 2.

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

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