



WHITEHORSE & GLACIER BAY CRUISE

July 16, 2021 - 9 Days

On Holland America's Koningsdam

This is a very unique cruise because it is not offered in Holland America's catalogue. Most Alaska cruises are round trip from Vancouver or Seattle. You may have ridden the White Pass Railway as far as the summit, but this tour boards the train at Carcross, 2 hours further north, and you experience the one-way trip through the mountains and down the thrilling grade to Skagway. Whitehorse is too far inland to be accessible as a one-day shore excursion from the ship, but there are enough attractions in the Yukon's capital to fill 2 days. On this tour, you fly to Whitehorse and stay 2 nights at the Gold Rush Inn with attractions such as the Beringia Centre, Takhini Hot Springs, and the SS Klondike. After the awesome train ride to the coast, board the Koningsdam, one of Holland America's newest ships, and cruise one-way to Vancouver with a day spent in the incredible scenery of Glacier Bay. Come and enjoy this unique cruise and tour. Holland America does not make it available every year.

Activity Level: 1



16 Meals Included:

7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners

Fares per person double/twin:

\$2,725 Interior Stateroom category I

\$3,090 Oceanview Stateroom category C

\$3,350 Veranda Stateroom category VA

Single & triple fares and ship suites also available.

Please add 1.7% GST.

Experience Points:

Earn 50 points from this tour

Redeem 50 points if you book by April 13, 2021.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Friday, July 16

We take the ferry to Tsawwassen and drive to New Westminster for an overnight stay. Take a stroll along the beautiful waterfront promenade beside the Fraser River tonight.

Accommodation: Inn at Westminster Quay

Day 2: Saturday, July 17

It is a 2½-hour flight on Air North from Vancouver to **Whitehorse**, arriving at 1:30 pm. Our coach meets us at the airport. First, we go to the Yukon Museum of Transportation which brings to life tales of bush pilots, Chilkoot Trail travellers, Klondike stampeders, and Alaska Highway builders. Next is the wonderful **Beringia Centre** which tells the story of native people and animals that lived in a prehistoric land between Alaska and Siberia known as the Bering Land Bridge.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Best Western Gold Rush Inn

Day 3: Sunday, July 18

We relax in the soothing waters of **Takhini Hot Springs** with temperatures of up to 42° C., then we explore the MacBride Museum which documents the Yukon's human history. Later, we visit the restored sternwheeler **SS Klondike** which plied the Yukon River to Dawson City from 1937 to 1955 and is now a National Historic Site.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Best Western Gold Rush Inn

Day 4: Monday, July 19

We drive to Carcross and board the **White Pass & Yukon Railway** for a thrilling five-hour journey through the rugged St. Elias Mountains. This narrow-gauge railway was built in 1898 to serve stampeders to the Klondike Gold Rush. Today it ranks among the world's most scenic rail journeys and has been designated an International Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. A stop is made at Bennett to visit the White Pass Museum, then the train descends 850 metres through tunnels and across high trestles on a cliff-hanging route to reach the ocean at **Skagway**.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Westmark Inn

Day 5: Tuesday, July 20

We board the **Koningsdam** and an embarkation lunch is served. The Klondike Gold Rush was in full swing 120 years ago and Skagway was the major gateway to the Yukon. Today, that heritage is kept alive with old boardwalks, quaint false-fronted buildings, and interesting architecture. You may want to get off the ship this afternoon to explore more of Skagway. After dinner, there is a lively stage show and the ship sails at 8 pm.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Holland America's Koningsdam

Day 6: Wednesday, July 21

Nothing quite prepares you for waking up this morning amidst the grandeur of **Glacier Bay**. The Koningsdam sails close to the Margerie Glacier and the Grand Pacific Glacier where chunks of ice periodically break away and crash into the sea. A National Park Ranger on board explains the natural phenomenon in detail. We spend most of today exploring an unforgettable world of floating ice castles and tidewater glaciers.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Holland America's Koningsdam

Day 7: Thursday, July 22

We dock in **Ketchikan** from 11 am to 7 pm. This picturesque town has waterfront buildings on stilts, weathered stairways clinging to steep hillsides, and the famous Creek Street boardwalk.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Holland America's Koningsdam

Day 8: Friday, July 23

We admire the magnificent scenery of B.C.'s famed **Inside Passage**. We pass hundreds of islands and waterfalls, and probably see wildlife such as bald eagles, porpoises, or killer whales. We sail through the narrow, sheltered waterways of Princess Royal Channel and Seymour Narrows where Ripple Rock used to menace ships.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Holland America's Koningsdam

Day 9: Saturday, July 24

We dock at Canada Place in **Vancouver** this morning. A transfer is arranged to Victoria and your pickup point.

Meals included: Breakfast

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Transportation to/from Vancouver
 - Air North flight from Vancouver to Whitehorse
 - Current air taxes and fuel surcharges
 - Airline luggage fee for 1 suitcase per person
 - 4 nights of hotel accommodation and taxes
 - 3 days of coach transportation in Yukon
 - Yukon Museum of Transportation
 - Beringia Centre
 - Takhini Hot Springs swim
 - MacBride Museum
 - SS Klondike National Historic Site
 - White Pass Railway from Carcross to Skagway
 - White Pass Museum at Bennett
 - 2 transfers in Skagway
 - 4-day Holland America cruise from Skagway to Vancouver on board *Koningsdam*
 - Cruise gratuities
 - Port charges & cruise taxes
 - Knowledgeable tour director
 - Luggage handling at hotels and ship
 - **16 meals:** 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners
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MS KONINGSDAM

Holland America Line's second newest ship, *MS Koningsdam*, made her grand entrance into the cruising world in 2016. To bring this new ship to life and give form and function to its brand, Holland America commissioned two legendary partners, Adam Tihany, regarded as one of the world's pre-eminent hospitality designers, and architect Bjørn Storbraaten. Their revolutionary designs for *Koningsdam* featured light-filled spaces, fluid curves, a sophisticated interplay of high technology and elegance, and beautiful architectural elements inspired by music. All were woven together to create an interior that blends a fresh, contemporary styling in perfect harmony with Holland America's classic elegance.

The *Koningsdam* carries 2,650 passengers, the largest ever built by the company. Her 12 decks feature four performance venues including the 1,000-seat live entertainment theatre, five lounges, casino, shopping arcade, movie theatre, beauty shop, library, games room, 12 elevators, internet centre, spa and fitness centre, and two swimming pools (one with sliding dome cover). The *Koningsdam* offers 12 restaurants or cafés. The elegant two-deck Dining Room serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner with full choice of menu. The Lido Market offers buffet-style serving stations for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and the 11 pm snack. The Pinnacle Grill, the Canaletto Restaurant with Italian cuisine, the Tamarind Restaurant with Asian cuisine, and Sel de Mer with a seafood menu all offer extraordinary service, reserved seating, and gourmet menus for an extra charge. You can also dine in the privacy of your stateroom by ordering from the complimentary room service menu. All meals are culinary delights!

Staterooms have twin lower beds (some convert to queen-size double), television, music, telephone, and bathroom with toilet, sink and shower or bathtub. A crew of over 1,000 ensures top-quality service and entertainment. Every day has a full schedule of optional activities: dance class, bridge, bingo, shuffleboard, table-tennis, karaoke, board games, and fitness activities. Every evening, there is live stage entertainment in the World Stage Theatre, and several other venues each offer a performance schedule.



Activity Level 1: Light activity including short distances to walk and some stairs. There are steps on and off the train. There can be longer walks in Vancouver and Whitehorse airports; request a cart or wheelchair in advance or at check-in if this could be an issue for you. The coaches and train 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. If you are not able to keep 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.

CRUISE NOTES

Staterooms: When you book this tour, your stateroom on the *Koningsdam* is guaranteed in the category you selected and the stateroom number is usually confirmed a few weeks before sailing. Fares are quoted for categories Interior J, Oceanview C, and Verandah VA, but other categories are also available.

Dinner reservations: You can go to the dining room when you are ready with your friends or make a reservation in advance. The four specialty restaurants can also be reserved for an additional charge.

Importance of early booking: Holland America Line has confirmed a block of staterooms for this tour and they are normally held until 90 days before sailing. However, any unsold staterooms can be taken away from us at any time if the ship or even a category fills. This has occurred several times recently and we had to turn away disappointed customers, even though we had seats available on the connecting motorcoach. Therefore, please don't delay booking this tour.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$600 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due April 13, 2021. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to March 12, 2021, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$100 per person. From March 13 to April 13, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From April 14 to May 13, the cancellation charge is 50% of tour fare. From May 14 to June 11, the cancellation charge is 80% of tour fare. After June 11, there is no refund.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from airline, cruise ship and other tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore, Wells Gray 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 Credits: Holland America Line, Wikipedia (SS Klondike), White Pass Railway

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 April 13.

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

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