Sable Island Wild Horses

WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience

Bird Islands

SABLE ISLAND & ATLANTIC CANADA CRUISE

June 21, 2022 – 14 Days

11 days on board Ocean Endeavour

From the rugged south coast of Newfound-land to the stunning views from the Cape Breton Highlands, Atlantic Canada offers picturesque vistas, outstanding bird and marine mammal watching, and unique natural wonders at every turn. Be among the lucky few to experience the wonder of the famous wild horses of Sable Island. Immerse yourself in the diverse history of Atlantic Canada where centuries of overlapping culture—Mi'kmaq, Acadian, English, Scottish, Irish, and French—have left their mark on the landscapes. With expedition stops in New-foundland, Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, and the French islands of Saint Pierre and Miquelon, every place is special! Expedition staff are experts on Atlantic Canada including geology, glaciation, history, and flora and fauna. Prior to embarking the 11-day cruise, we spend two nights in St. John's with a tour of its highlights and a traditional Jiggs Dinner.

Activity Level: 3

33 Meals Included:
11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 12 dinners

Fares per person based on double/twin:
$8,460 – Inside Category 3
$9,760 – Outside Category 4
$11,060 – Outside Category 5
Other categories may be available.
Please add 0.6% GST.

Early Bookers:
A discount of about 15% of the cruise fare is offered to early bookers by the cruise line until June 1, 2021, but could be extended. The above fares include the dis-count, so fares will increase after the discount ends.

Experience Points:
Earn 145 points from this tour.
Redeem 145 points if you book by February 10, 2022.

Departure from: Lower Mainland

Cape Breton Island

ITINERARY

Day 1: Tuesday, June 21

Flights are arranged from Vancouver via Toronto to **St. John's, Newfoundland.** We stay two nights at Delta Hotel with 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.
Accommodation: Delta Hotel

Day 2: Wednesday, June 22

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, an opportunity to 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.**
Meals included: Dinner
Accommodation: Delta Hotel

Day 3: Thursday, June 23

The morning is leisure time so you may want to browse the shops along Water Street. A transfer is provided to the dock and we board the ***Ocean Endeavour*** about 2 pm. Be sure to have a good vantage point on deck when the ship casts off and sails through The Narrows of St. John's Harbour into the vast Atlantic Ocean. Savour your first fine dinner in the Polaris Restaurant and a "Welcome Aboard" event in the Nautilus Lounge.
Meals included: Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 4: Friday, June 24

This is a day at sea, crossing the broad **Cabot Strait** to Nova Scotia. Expect several lectures by the expedition experts on many intriguing topics.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 5: Saturday, June 25

Day 6: Sunday, June 26

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 renowned **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.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 7: Monday, June 27

Join the 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 and evening.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Dessert Extravaganza on Ocean Endeavour

Day 8: Tuesday, June 28

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.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 9: Wednesday, June 29

Conditions permitting, we enjoy a Zodiac cruise at the **Bird Islands**, just off Cape Breton Island's coast near Cape Dauphin. This is a critical seabird nesting and breeding area that includes the largest colony of great cormorants in Canada. We also watch for black-legged kittiwakes, razorbills, Atlantic puffins, black guillemots, and perhaps Leach's storm-petrels. **Cape Breton Island** is a bastion of Gaelic music and culture, "more Scottish than the Scots." Its rugged highlands and wind-swept coasts are home to famous Cabot Trail and Cape Breton Highlands National Park.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 10: Thursday, June 30

Today we call at the fishing village of **Chéticamp** on the west coast of Cape Breton Island. 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.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 11: Friday, July 1

Historic **Charlottetown,** capital of Prince Edward Island, is known as the Birthplace of Confederation where the roots of Canada were formed in 1864. It is an appropriate place to spend Canada Day and commemorate our 155th birthday. Optional excursions include a visit to **Green Gables**, the fictional home of the famous Anne, and Lennox Island Mi'kmaq First Nation.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 12: Saturday, July 2

After crossing the Cabot Strait again, the *Ocean Endeavour* reaches the wild and windswept coast of southern Newfoundland. There are still a few remaining outport communities, and visits are often a highlight of Atlantic Canada expeditions. There are many choices of unique bays and coves to explore via Zodiac or land excursions. Along the coast, the geology is outstanding and the plant life is gorgeous. We are always on the watch for wildlife, too.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 13: Sunday, July 3

Saint-Pierre and Miquelon are two islands off the south coast of Newfoundland, but they are an official territory of the French Republic. The colourful town of Saint-Pierre has winding streets lined with shops, houses, and cafes that bring a taste of Europe to Canada's east coast.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: *Ocean Endeavour*

Day 14: Monday, July 4

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.
Meals included: Breakfast

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 inside and outside cabins on different decks. The outside cabins have portholes or windows, some with obstructed views. Each cabin has a private bathroom with toilet, sink and shower. There are no cabins with 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. The Aurora Lounge for other lectures and a hot tub are 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. Other delights are an on-deck barbeque, afternoon tea and pastries every day, and a dessert extravaganza. 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 Nautilus Lounge and at dinner.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Flight from Vancouver to St. John's, Newfoundland, and return
- Current air transport taxes and security 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 National Historic Site
- Signal Hill National Historic Site
- Transfer from St. John's hotel to dock
- 11 days & nights on board *Ocean Endeavour*
- Cruise taxes and port charges
- 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 hotel and ship
- **33 meals:** 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 12 dinners

Activity Level 3: This tour is very active including getting in and out of Zodiacs and walking on rocky or sandy beaches. 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 or motorized wheelchairs 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.

TOUR NOTES:

- Please look at the ship's deck plans to choose your category – www.adventurecanada.com/ships then click on *Ocean Endeavour.*
- Due to high demand for these voyages, the *Ocean Endeavour* may be full for this cruise months in advance. Wells Gray Tours has cabins in categories 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, and others may be available. 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 $500,000 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 meets you in Toronto Airport and accompanies everybody to St. John's (based on preliminary flight plans). She/he is with you during the St. John's tour on June 22 and attends the Adventure Canada reception and briefing that evening. On June 23, you are in Adventure Canada's capable hands for the transfer to the ship. There is no tour director with you for the flight home on July 4.
- The planned itinerary is in this brochure, but many factors such as weather and sea conditions can cause changes to the route or the shore excursions.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of $3,000 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due February 10, 2022. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to January 10, 2022, your tour payments will be refunded less a cruise line fee of $1,600 per person. From January 11 to February 10, the cancellation charge is $2,400 per person. From February 11 to March 10, the cancellation charge is 65% of the tour fare. After March 10, there is no refund. Be sure that your travel insurance policy covers these penalties.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from the airline, cruise line and other tour suppliers can occur at any time. The cruise fare is charged to Wells Gray Tours in US dollars, and exchange rates are impossible to predict 14 months 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 until departure. Any decreases in costs will also be passed on.

Photo Credits: Adventure Canada (Sable Island, Cape Breton, ship), Wikimedia (Bird Islands), Roland Neave (desserts)

Experience Points: This tour earns 145 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 10, 2022.

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

VICTORIA
102-736 Broughton St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1E1
250-590-7889

KAMLOOPS
(Head Office)
250 Lansdowne St.
Kamloops, BC V2C 1X7
250-374-0831

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www.wellsgraytours.com

1-800-667-9552

WELLS GRAY TOURS
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SABLE ISLAND EXPEDITION CRUISE — June 21, 2022

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 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 ongoing 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 until the ship arrives in St. John's, 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_____