



Paddlewheeler MV Native



Inn at Westminster Quay

CRUISING THE LOWER MAINLAND

May 9, 2022 – 6 Days

Includes 5 cruises on small ships

See the Lower Mainland from a vantage point that few people can enjoy – from the water. The five cruises are quite distinctive experiences. On the first day, there is a 2-hour cruise on Harrison Lake. The Fraser River Safari boat travels between Mission and Historic Kilby Store near the mouth of the Harrison River. Another trip is with Harbour Cruises exploring Burrard Inlet and Indian Arm, going deep into the Coast Mountains. A boat trip that is a first for Wells Gray is the 6-hour cruise up the Fraser and Pitt Rivers into beautiful Pitt Lake. Lastly, we take a nature cruise on the paddlewheeler *Native* from New Westminster into the Ladner Wetlands to see lots of birdlife. What a unique way to get off the highway and explore some scenic waterways!

Activity Level: 1



12 Meals Included:

5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 1 dinner

Fares per person:

\$2,245 double/twin; \$2,725 single; \$2,125 triple
Please add 5% GST.

Early Bookers:

\$120 discount on first 12 seats; \$60 on next 8

Experience Points:

Earn 53 points on this tour.

Redeem 53 points if you book by March 23, 2022.

Departure from: BC Interior



Harrison Hot Springs

ITINERARY

Day 1: Monday, May 9

Leaving from the Interior, we travel the Coquihalla Highway with a lunch stop in Hope. We board Shoreline Cruises for a two-hour excursion on **Harrison Lake**, admiring snowy mountains and rugged lakeshores. Our accommodation for two nights is at **Harrison Hot Springs Resort** in the East Tower. All guestrooms feature floor-to-ceiling windows with balconies and lake views, in-room refrigerators, free wi-fi, and complimentary bathrobes for use at the pools. Bring your bathing suit in your carry-on bag, so you can quickly access the hot pools. This evening, join the group for an elegant dinner in the renowned **Copper Room**, followed by dancing and live music with Hayley and the Lefties.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Harrison Hot Springs Resort

Day 2: Tuesday, May 10

During today's **Fraser River Safari**, we take a two-hour jet-boat excursion from Mission to the mouth of the Harrison River while viewing bird and animal life with an expert naturalist. Although the Fraser flows near cities such as Chilliwack, Abbotsford, and Mission, this 50-km section is less visited because the major highways on the north and south shores are well away from the river. The trip ends at **Kilby Store**, a wonderful restoration of a century-old general store. An interior

tour is provided as well as a walking tour of the farm. Note: Half of the group travels upstream and half downstream.



Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Harrison Hot Springs Resort

Day 3: Wednesday, May 11

We drive into downtown Vancouver. At 11 am, we depart on a Harbour Cruises vessel for a four-hour cruise through Burrard Inlet and **Indian Arm**. Experience this magnificent coastal mountain fjord right in Vancouver's backyard. Old growth forests, pristine waterfalls, various wildlife, and

large waterfront homes are some of the highlights while sailing through the calm, blue waters of Indian Arm. A delicious buffet lunch is served on board and features fresh BC salmon and chicken. We stay three nights at **Inn at the Quay**, a unique hotel built on a pier jutting into the Fraser River, and every room offers a view of the river.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Inn at the Quay

Day 4: Thursday, May 12

We have chartered the *MV Beta Star* for a private six-hour cruise to Pitt Lake. We sail underneath **Port Mann and Pattullo Bridges** and three others. Following the Fraser River and Pitt River, we enter **Pitt Lake**, the second-largest lake in the Lower Mainland. At 25 km long and up to 4.5 km wide, it is one of the world's relatively few tidal lakes. An expert guide is on board with lots of stories to tell about sights and historical places along the way such as Slumach's lost gold mine and Golden Ears Provincial Park.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Inn at the Quay

Day 5: Friday, May 13

We board the **MV Native paddlewheeler** cruising downstream on the Fraser River, enjoying the benefit of a narrator again. We sail under the Alex Fraser Bridge and over the Massey Tunnel. We explore the multiple channels in the delta of the Fraser River including the picturesque float homes, the old fishing village of Ladner, and the migratory bird habitat on Woodward and Gunn Islands which make up the **Ladner Wetlands**. Back at New Westminster, a Discovery Centre expert speaks about the remarkable waterways that we have cruised in the Lower Mainland.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Inn at Westminster Quay

Day 6: Saturday, May 14

We take a tour of the **Stave Falls Powerhouse** which was built in 1908 and generated power for nearly a century. After lunch in Chilliwack, we travel home via the Coquihalla.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Coach transportation for 6 days
 - 5 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
 - Harrison Lake cruise
 - Harrison Hot Springs pools
 - Copper Room dinner, music with Hayley & the Lefties Band, and dancing
 - Fraser River Safari boat from Mission to Kilby with local naturalist
 - Kilby Historic Store and farm tour
 - Cruise in Burrard Inlet and Indian Arm
 - *MV Beta Star* cruise up Pitt River into Pitt Lake
 - *MV Native* paddlewheeler cruise from New Westminster to the Ladner Wetlands
 - Local guide or narration on all boat trips
 - Speaker from Fraser River Discovery Centre
 - Stave Falls Powerhouse tour
 - Gratuities for boat crew and Stave guide
 - Knowledgeable tour director
 - Luggage handling at hotels
 - **12 meals:** 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 1 dinner
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TOUR NOTES

The cruises — Three cruises are on gently-flowing sections of the Fraser with no white water or rough water, and the other two are on a lake and a sheltered inlet. The Harrison Lake cruise vessel carries 36 passengers, so the last few people to book will not be able to go and will receive a discount of \$57 each. The Fraser River Safari boat carries 22 passengers; half of our group cruises upstream from Mission to Kilby Store and the other half cruises downstream, each for two hours. Both the Pitt Lake vessel and the paddlewheeler have two decks with indoor and outdoor seating. All vessels except the Safari boat are equipped with restrooms.



Activity Level 1: Light activity including short distances to walk and some stairs. There is a level walk of less than ½ km from the boat to Kilby Store or reverse. Depending on the river's height, there may be a pebbly beach to walk across near Kilby. There are steps or ramps to get on or off each vessel and sometimes the ramps are steep. The coach cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. There are many stops during this tour and you must be able to get on and off the coach or vessels by yourself without delaying your fellow travellers. 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 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.



Indian Arm cruise

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$200 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due March 23, 2022. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$120 discount on first 12 seats and \$60 on next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after March 23, 2022.

Cancellation Policy: Up to February 23, 2022, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From February 24 to March 23, the cancellation charge is \$150 per person. From March 24 to April 8, the cancellation charge is 60% of the tour fare. After April 8, 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 up until the time of departure.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy.

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 final payment. Please contact us for details.

Photo Credits: Paddlewheeler Riverboat Tours (MV Native), Roland Neave (Inn at the Quay), Harrison Hot Springs Resort, Fraser River Safari, Harbour Cruises (Indian Arm)

Experience Points: This tour earns 53 points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points. One point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until March 23, 2022.

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

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