



KATHAUMIXW CHORAL FESTIVAL

July 3, 2022 – 7 Days

*Attend one of Canada's top choral events
in Powell River!*

International Choral Kathaumixw has taken place every two years since its founding in Powell River in 1984. Choirs from around the world participate and compete for awards in front of a distinguished international jury. The event takes place over 5 days with 18 concerts in 3 venues and you can choose 8 performances to attend. The Gala Closing Concert usually has a massed choir with over 1,000 voices, a truly spectacular triumph of choral skills. In addition to these performances, the tours includes several other activities – a First Nations cultural program “Talking Trees”, a heritage walking tour, a guided nature walk, and a 5-hour cruise in the pristine beauty of Desolation Sound.

Activity Level: 1



13 Meals Included:

6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

Fares per person:

\$2,385 double/twin; \$2,240 triple

Rooms for single occupancy are not available.

Please add 5% GST.

Experience Points:

Earn 55 points on this tour.

Redeem 55 points if you book by May 3, 2022.

Departure from: BC Interior

TOUR

30



ITINERARY

Day 1: Sunday, July 3

We drive the Coquihalla to the Lower Mainland and take a late afternoon ferry from Horseshoe Bay across Howe Sound to Langdale. Welcome to the Sunshine Coast! We continue to **Sechelt** for an overnight stay at the Driftwood Inn on the waterfront. Meet your fellow travellers at a get-acquainted dinner. Enjoy a stroll on the beach this evening.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Driftwood Inn

Day 2: Monday, July 4

A First Nations guide presents a cultural program “**Talking Trees**” which shares the stories of the Coast Salish people, the land, and the harmonious ways of living. Continuing up the Sunshine Coast, we ride the ferry across Jervis Inlet to Saltery Bay, then drive into **Powell River** for a stay of five nights at the oceanfront Beach Gardens Resort. The hotel has a splendid setting overlooking Malaspina Strait and every room has an ocean view with a balcony. The Gala Opening Concert of International Choral Kathaumixw starts at 8 pm in the Great Hall. During the weeks prior, the Powell River community arena is transformed into a concert hall with excellent acoustics and able to accommodate over 1,000 singers.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Beach Gardens Resort

Day 3: Tuesday, July 5

A continental breakfast is included each day in the Seaside Bistro in the hotel. A local guide explains the history and sights of Powell River during a **walking tour** with the Heritage Society. Lunch is at the Shingle Mill Bistro, overlooking Powell Lake, followed by a visit to the Powell River Museum. At 3 pm, there are three concerts simultaneously at the Evergreen Theatre, Max Cameron Theatre, and James Hall. Each concert typically features three choirs. The schedule listing participating choirs will be published in the spring of 2022. Transportation is provided to all three venues. Three more concerts, each with three different choirs, start at 8 pm.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Beach Gardens Resort

Day 4: Wednesday, July 6

The morning is free time. You can choose one of three concerts at 3 pm and one of three at 8 pm. The choirs are different than those on Tuesday.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Beach Gardens Resort

Day 5: Thursday, July 7

We drive to the end of Highway 101 at Lund which is the jumping-off point for boat excursions into **Desolation Sound**. British Columbia’s largest marine park, established in 1973, attracts recreational boaters from around the world because of its magnificent scenery, pleasant summer climate, numerous sheltered harbours, and the snowcapped peaks of the Coast Mountains which rise over 2,400 metres from the water. Captain George Vancouver saw it differently in 1792 when he described these waters as “forlorn” and “desolate”. Our five-hour excursion from Lund in two small vessels has a flexible route and the captains decide where to go based on wildlife sightings. The small size, maneuverability, and minimal draft allow the boats to enter narrow passages. See Tour Notes regarding capacity of the boats. Lunch is provided on board. We are back in Powell River in time for you to attend one of the 3 pm concerts. Tonight is the **Awards Concert** in the Great Hall, featuring performances by First Place Choirs and Soloists.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Beach Gardens Resort

Day 6: Friday, July 8

The morning is free time and transfers are provided into downtown if you wish to browse the shops. This afternoon, a **guided nature walk** is conducted at Willingdon Beach by the Museum. Tonight is the **Gala Closing Concert**, featuring the Choir of the World and the spectacular massed choir with over 1,000 voices.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Beach Gardens Resort

Day 7: Saturday, July 9

We head home along the Sunshine Coast and the Coquihalla.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

INTERNATIONAL CHORAL KATHAUMIXW

The idea of Kathaumixw was born because Don James, music director of the Powell River Academy of Music, wanted to establish an international choral festival in North America that would be on par with festivals that the Academy Choirs had experienced in Europe. With his friend Dal Matterson and a group of close friends, they successfully organized the first International Choral Kathaumixw in 1984. What happened next was beyond anyone's expectations. Since the first festival, attended by about 400 singers, International Choral Kathaumixw has taken place every two years. The festival almost doubled in size in 1986 and developed a definite international flavour in 1988. Today, more than 1,200 singers from around the world gather to share their music, culture, and friendship. Kathaumixw is a Coast Salish word meaning "a gathering together of different peoples". It is pronounced ka-THOU-mew.

Kathaumixw has been a breeding ground for musical talent and innovation. Several works have been commissioned for festivals over the years, including staged choral works by Canadian and foreign composers. The festival features Artists in Residence, internationally renowned soloists, orchestras, and a distinguished international jury.

The success of Kathaumixw is due to its volunteers and committee members who work for months in advance, organizing the venues, registering choirs from all over the world, and planning meals, transportation, and homestays. Many local people open their homes and welcome foreign visitors during Kathaumixw week.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Coach transportation for 7 days
- 6 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Ferry from Horseshoe Bay to Langdale & return
- First Nations cultural program "Talking Trees"
- Ferry across Jervis Inlet and return
- Kathaumixw Gala Opening Concert
- Powell River heritage walking tour
- Powell River Museum
- Five concerts over 3 days with 3 choirs in each
- Desolation Sound cruise
- Kathaumixw Awards Concert
- Nature and historical guided walk
- Kathaumixw Gala Closing Concert
- Gratuities for guides and crew on boat tour
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **13 meals:** 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

TOUR NOTES

- With thousands of visitors in Powell River this week, accommodation is at a premium and Wells Gray Tours booked our rooms a year in advance. To ensure that no beds in the town are empty this week, single occupancy rooms cannot be offered.
- The Kathaumixw schedule of events will be posted on its website (www.kathaumixw.org) in spring 2022. Later, you will be asked to choose which five concerts out of 15 offered over 3 days (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) you wish to attend. The package includes those five, plus the Gala Opening Concert, Awards Concert, and Gala Closing Concert. Coach transfers are provided between the hotel and concert venues for all afternoon and evening events.
- The Desolation Sound cruise utilizes two small vessels with indoor seating and a restroom, maximum of 12 passengers on each. This tour is limited to 28 travellers, so a few people cannot go on the cruise and have a fare reduction of \$200 each.



Activity Level 1: Light activity including short distances to walk, such as to/from your theatre seat and the two guided walking tours. The ramp onto the dock for the cruise can be steep at low tide. There is no luggage handling service available in Sechart. The coach cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. If Activity Level 1 could be challenging, you are urged to 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.

TOUR 30 This is a Tour 30 departure, meaning the tour is limited to less than 30 participants, a more intimate travel experience.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$250 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due May 3, 2022. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to April 1, 2022, the cancellation charge is \$50 per person. From April 2 to May 3, the cancellation charge is \$200 per person. From May 4 to June 3, the cancellation charge is 50% of tour fare. After June 3, 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.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to a remote destination where restaurants may not be able to satisfy all food allergies. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

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: International Choral Kathaumixw (page 1 top 2 photos), Roland Neave (Desolation Sound).

Experience Points: This tour earns 55 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 May 3, 2022.

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

KAMLOOPS

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

KELOWNA

2575 Richter St.
Kelowna, BC V1Y 2R1
250-762-3435

VERNON

3206 35th St.
Vernon, BC V1T 6B7
250-545-9197

PENTICTON

159 Wade Ave E
Penticton, BC V2A 8B6
250-493-1255

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www.wellsgraytours.com

1-800-667-9552