



Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Chinese Garden

SHEN YUN IN VANCOUVER

March 22, 2023 – 3 Days

Shen Yun Performing Arts is a premier Chinese dance and music company that performs classical Chinese dance, ethnic and folk dance, and storybased dance, with elaborate costumes and orchestral accompaniment. We have excellent seats at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre for this spectacular show. With the benefit of a local guide, we take a walking tour around Vancouver's vibrant Chinatown. We also visit Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden and enjoy a guided tour of this authentic representation of a Ming Dynasty Garden, learning about its structure, beauty, philosophy, and mythology. Before heading home to Victoria, we enjoy a harbour cruise and a guided walk in the Reifel Bird Sanctuary. Accommodation for 2 nights is at the renowned Fairmont Hotel Vancouver.

Activity Level: 1



Fares per person:

\$995 double/twin; \$1,225 single; \$965 triple

Please add 5% GST.

BC Seniors (65 & over): \$15 off with BC Services Card

Early Bookers:

\$60 discount on first 15 seats; \$30 on next 10

Experience Points:

Earn 24 points from this tour.

Departure from: Victoria & Nanaimo



ITINERARY

Day 1: Wednesday, March 22

After pickups around Victoria and north to Nanaimo, we take the ferry to Horseshoe Bay. Enjoy all the exhibits at the amazing **Museum of Anthropology**, housed in a stunning Arthur Erickson structure with exquisite First Nations artifacts, including Bill Reid's famous sculpture "The Raven and the First Men". Afterwards, we head downtown to the **Fairmont Hotel Vancouver** for a two-night stay. Opened in 1939 at a cost of \$12 million, it was a downtown landmark with its copper green roof and a height of 17 storeys. This famed hotel has an excellent location on West Georgia Street, surrounded by dozens of interesting shops and restaurants, and a block from Pacific Centre Mall.

Accommodation: Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

Day 2: Thursday, March 23

The morning is free time. There is an option to experience a Dim Sum lunch at Floata Restaurant in Chinatown. Cost is \$40 per person including gratuity. Please request no later than at final payment. At 12:30, a local expert conducts a historical **walking tour of Chinatown**, featuring bright facades, street markets, and unique architecture.

The walking distance is about four blocks, at a very leisurely pace with many stops. This is one of the largest Chinatowns of its kind in North America. The walk finishes at **Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden**, one of the top attractions in Vancouver. We are treated to a close look at this authentic representation of a Ming Dynasty Garden with a guided tour, learning about its structure, philosophy, and mythology. Listen to a talk about the cultural significance of tea, then enjoy a Premium Jasmine tea. Tonight at 7:30, the curtain rises at Queen Elizabeth Theatre for the awesome performance by **Shen Yun**.

Accommodation: Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

Day 3: Friday, March 24

There is free time in Steveston to stroll the waterfront and have lunch. Afterwards, there is a guided walk through the **Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary**, a premier birding area on the Fraser delta. It consists of 1,600 acres of tidal marshes, mud flats, and grass habitats, and is the winter home to thousands of ducks, swans, loons, cormorants, grebes, raptors, and lesser snow geese. We take an afternoon ferry to Swartz Bay.

SHEN YUN — REVIVING 5,000 YEARS OF CIVILIZATION

Shen Yun Performing Arts is a premier classical Chinese dance and music company established in New York in 2006. It performs classical Chinese dance, ethnic and folk dance, and story-based dance, and orchestral accompaniment. For 5,000 years, divine culture flourished in the land of China. Humanity's treasure was nearly lost in the 20th century, but through breathtaking music and dance, *Shen Yun* is reviving this glorious culture. *Shen Yun* can be translated as "the beauty of divine beings dancing." The 40 dancers perform wearing intricate costumes, often accompanied by a variety of props. Some costumes are intended to imitate the dress of various ethnicities, while others depict ancient Chinese court dancers, soldiers, or characters from classic stories. Props include colourful handkerchiefs, drums, fans, chopsticks, or silk scarves.

Each *Shen Yun* piece is set against a digitally projected backdrop, usually depicting landscapes such as Mongolian grasslands, imperial courts, ancient villages, temples, or mountains.

Shen Yun has five troupes that perform in about 100 cities and 20 countries each year. The Vancouver show is the only Canadian stop west of the Toronto area. We have excellent seats at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre in Centre Orchestra, Rows 17 to 19. Seats are assigned according to the order that you book for this tour. Don't miss this incredible performance!



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Coach transportation for 3 days
- 2 nights of accommodation and hotel taxes
- 2 Strait of Georgia ferry crossings
- Museum of Anthropology
- Chinatown walking tour with local expert guide
- Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden
- Tea talk with a cup of Premium Jasmine tea
- Ticket to *Shen Yun* at Queen Elizabeth Theatre
- Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Gratuities for Chinatown and Reifel guides
- Luggage handling at hotel



Activity Level 1: Light activity including short distances to walk and some stairs, mainly to and from your theatre seats. The Chinatown walking tour is about 90 minutes and 4 blocks at a leisurely pace but is not suitable for anybody with mobility challenges. 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.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$150 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due January 30, 2023. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level, and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking, cheque, Visa or Mastercard.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$50 discount on first 15 seats and \$25 on next 10 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after January 30, 2023. BC seniors (65 & over) receive \$15 discount extended by BC Ferries, so you must bring your BC Services Card.

Cancellation Policy: Up to January 11, 2023, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From January 12 to January 30, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From January 31 to February 20, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. From February 21 to March 6, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After March 6, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: As the world emerges from the pandemic, many of our suppliers such as hotels, restaurants, attractions, and transportation providers are struggling with shortage of staff, inflated costs, and supply line challenges. Sometimes we are notified about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a tour component due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges and changes to taxes or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to 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.

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

Photo Credits: Shen Yun Performing Arts (3 Shen Yun photos), Gardens BC (Sun Yat-Sen)

Experience Points: This tour earns 24 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 tours longer than 3 days. You can accumulate enough points to earn a free tour (this tour eligible until January 30, 2023).

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

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