

FRASER RIVER FROM SOURCE TO MOUTH

September 2024


WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience



Fraser River & Chilcotin Bridge

Includes a helicopter ride to the source, and 2 boat trips on the “Mighty Fraser”!

The Fraser is truly British Columbia’s great river. Flowing entirely within the province, it starts from a spring 50 km south of Yellowhead Pass and ends, 1390 km later, in the Strait of Georgia near Vancouver. Along the Fraser’s tortuous route, it races past Mount Robson, the highest in the Canadian Rockies; it tumbles over Rearguard Falls where salmon can swim no further; it meanders for 250 km through the broad Rocky Mountain Trench; it flows past old homesteads like the Huble Farm and under historic crossings such as the Lillooet and Alexandra Suspension Bridges; it passes industrial cities like Prince George and Quesnel; it plunges through the awesome Fraser Canyon and squeezes through Hells Gate. At the end of its journey, the Fraser spreads out into multiple channels and flows quietly into the ocean at Steveston. On this tour, you see all this as well as fly by helicopter to see the dripping spring that is the Fraser’s birthplace.



CANADIAN



GROUP SIZE



ACTIVITY LEVEL

► **Fares per person**

from **\$4,795** double/twin, **\$5,660** single*

**pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.*

► **Early Booking Bonus**

\$240 discount on first 8 seats; **\$120** on next 4.

► **Earn 105 Experience Points**

► **Departure from:**

BC Interior, Vancouver Island & Lower Mainland



Mt. Robson rafting

Providing Quality Packaged Travel Since 1972

DEPARTURE POINTS & DATES

- I BC Interior:** September 5, 2024 - 10 Days
- V Vancouver Island:** September 4, 2024 - 11 Days
- L Lower Mainland:** September 4, 2024 - 11 Days



Your specific departure point will be confirmed at the time of booking. Passengers travelling from the BC Interior, Vancouver Island & Lower Mainland regions will begin and end the tour as follows:

- I BC Interior:** We depart from communities in the BC Interior on Thursday, September 5 and travel the Yellowhead Highway along the North Thompson River to Valemount . We return home on Saturday, September 14. Transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back when we return.
- V Vancouver Island:** We fly from Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox to Kelowna on Wednesday, September 4 and overnight at the Hampton Inn and Suites YLW before joining the tour on September 5. We return home on Saturday, September 14. For passengers in the Greater Victoria Area, transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure, and back when we return. Transportation is not provided to Nanaimo or Comox Airport. There is an additional cost to fly back to Nanaimo or Comox at the end of this tour.
Note: Home pickup may be offered in the Greater Victoria Area depending on the number of people booked and coach size. The decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.
- L Lower Mainland:** We fly from Vancouver to Kelowna on Wednesday, September 4 and overnight at the Hampton Inn and Suites YLW before joining the tour on September 5. We return home on Saturday, September 14. For passengers in the Greater Vancouver Area, home pickup may be arranged at time of booking for transportation to Vancouver Airport and back home when we return. Transportation is not provided from Abbotsford or Chilliwack to Vancouver Airport on the day of departure. Transportation is provided to drop-off points in Abbotsford and Chilliwack when we return.

FARES PER PERSON

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
I	BC Interior	\$4,795 double/twin \$5,660 single \$4,580 triple	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please add 5% GST• There is an additional cost for the return flight to Nanaimo or Comox.
V	Vancouver Island	\$5,230 double/twin \$6,175 single \$5,050 triple	
L	Lower Mainland	\$5,195 double/twin \$6,140 single \$5,015 triple	

WHAT'S INCLUDED

► Meals

- **I23 total:** 9 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 4 dinners
- **VL23 total:** 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 4 dinners

► Transportation

- **VL** Transfers to Victoria and Vancouver Airports from the Greater Victoria & Greater Vancouver Areas
- **VL** Flight from to Kelowna
- **VL** Current air taxes & security fees
 - Coach transportation for 10 days

► Accommodation

- **I** 9 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- **VL** 10 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
 - Luggage handling at most hotels

► Guides & Gratuities

- Gratuities for local guides, museum docents, raft guides, & boat crew

► Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

► Key Highlights

- Helicopter to the source of the Fraser River
- Fraser River raft float trip
- Huble Homestead tour
- Farwell Canyon
- Cariboo Chilcotin Museum
- Hat Creek Ranch and historic roadhouse tour
- Stagecoach ride at Hat Creek Ranch
- Lillooet Museum
- Miyazaki House
- Ashcroft Manor
- Hell's Gate Airtram
- St. John the Divine Church in Yale
- Harrison Hot Springs pools
- Copper Room entertainment with music by the Jones Boys and dancing
- Harrison Lake boat excursion
- Kilby Store Historic Site
- *Victorian Secrets* show at Kilby
- *MV Gikumi* cruise from New Westminster to the mouth of the Fraser River
- Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site
- Fraser River guest speaker

Activity Level 3



This activity rating uses the new scale of 1 to 4 introduced in November 2023.

High Activity: You are an active traveller who wants to explore wherever you go. You don't mind a mix of full days, early morning starts, and some late nights. This is a unique tour with lots of activity and time outdoors while you experience many aspects of the Fraser River. The trip to the source of the Fraser requires getting in and out of a helicopter, and walking about ½ km in an alpine meadow at 2,000 metres altitude. On other days, you are boarding a large raft and two boats. Another walk occurs in Farwell Canyon. This tour has activity ranging from somewhat rigorous to sedentary. You can climb three flights of stairs easily and unassisted, and can handle your own luggage in an airport or at hotels where luggage handling is not available. This tour is not appropriate for people with canes, walkers, wheelchairs, or other mobility assistance devices. 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. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense; travel insurance will probably not cover you.

Please note: 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.



Tour Size 25

This tour is limited to 25 participants, making it a more intimate travel experience.



ITINERARY

Wednesday, September 4

Passengers from Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland fly to Kelowna and overnight at the Hampton Inn YLW.

Accommodation: Hampton Inn & Suites YLW

Thursday, September 5

We follow the Yellowhead Highway along the North Thompson River with a stop at 75-metre high Spahats Falls in **Wells Gray Park**. Our first two nights are in Valemount.

Meals included: **L** Lunch, Dinner **VL** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Comfort Inn Valemount

Friday, September 6

Our scenic **helicopter flight** takes us past the rugged Ramparts and the Bennington Glacier to the source of the Fraser River high on the Continental Divide. The helicopter lands on the alpine meadows and you have about 45 minutes to stroll the area. Fewer than 200 people, most of them travelling with Wells Gray Tours, have seen the remarkable phenomenon of a **tiny dripping spring** flowing into a pond from where the Fraser River, just 15 cm or six inches wide, starts its long journey to the ocean. Your tour director guides you to the spring and you can have your picture taken straddling the "mighty Fraser".

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Comfort Inn Valemount

Saturday, September 7

We board large **12-passenger rafts** and float gently down 8 km of the Fraser River for 1½ hours, watching for bears, moose, deer, bald eagles, beaver dams, and chinook salmon. Interpretive talks are provided by a guide on each raft. Dominating the view from the river is **Mount Robson**, highest in the Canadian Rockies at nearly 4,000 metres. There is no white water on this excursion. Back on our coach, a stop is made at Rearguard Falls, the upper limit of salmon migration on the Fraser. This afternoon, we drive west to Prince George, following the broad rift valley called the Rocky Mountain Trench and getting some views of the meandering Fraser.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Ramada Plaza Hotel

Sunday, September 8

During a drive around **Prince George**, we enjoy the view from Connaught Hill and take a nature walk at Cottonwood Island. The Fraser River rounds its "Big Bend" near Prince George and turns south. At this point, it is only 12 km to the Arctic drainage and, starting in the mid-19th century, the Giscome Portage Trail served early travellers. **Huble Homestead** was built in 1912 at this strategic bend of the Fraser. A heritage tour is followed by lunch in the old barn. Then we drive the Cariboo Highway south through Quesnel and stay two nights in Williams Lake.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Coast Fraser Inn

Monday, September 9

The legendary **Chilcotin Highway** starts at Williams Lake and heads west to Bella Coola. We cross the Fraser River on a lofty bridge and drive across the vast ranchlands of the Chilcotin Plateau to Riske Creek. A highlight is the view of the glacial blue Chilcotin River as it races through **Farwell Canyon**. Lunch is included at historic **Chilcotin Lodge**. This afternoon, we visit the Cariboo Chilcotin Museum in Williams Lake.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Coast Fraser Inn

ITINERARY continued

Tuesday, September 10

Our first stop is at the colourful Painted Chasm, created by glacial meltwaters at the end of the last Ice Age. Next is **Hat Creek Ranch**, one of the last remaining roadhouses from the era of the Cariboo Wagon Road. We tour the buildings, ride the stagecoach, and listen to tales of the Gold Rush. We drive beneath the soaring white cliffs of **Marble Canyon** and along the terraces above Fountain Canyon and Moran Canyon where a gigantic dam was planned in the 1960s to harness the Fraser River. The Bridge of the 23 Camels crosses the Fraser into Lillooet and commemorates that oddity in B.C. history when camels were used as pack animals to the gold fields. We visit the Lillooet Museum, the 1880s Miyazaki House, and the Hanging Tree. Dinner is at Ashcroft Manor, another roadhouse which dates to 1862.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Sandman Inn Cache Creek

Wednesday, September 11

Today features sights through the famous **Fraser Canyon**. The clear Thompson River flows into the muddy Fraser at Lytton. We ride the **Hell's Gate Airtram** down to this awesome spectacle where the Fraser squeezes between sheer rock walls. We stop in Yale at St. John the Divine, B.C.'s oldest church which dates to 1863. At Hope, the Fraser emerges from its canyon into the fertile farmlands of the Fraser Valley and turns west for its final 160 km to the ocean. We stay at **Harrison Hot Springs Resort** in the east tower rooms, all with lake views. Relax in the soothing hot pools, then dine in elegance in the Copper Room with music and dancing by the Jones Boys.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Harrison Hot Springs Resort

Thursday, September 12

We take a scenic **cruise on Harrison Lake** while viewing bird and animal life with expert commentary. Next we visit **Kilby Historic Site**, a wonderful restoration of a century-old general store and farm. It was operated by the Kilby family from 1906 to 1977 and is now a provincial historic site. Included is an interior tour of the store, a walk around the farm, and the delightful show *Victorian Secrets* which incorporates humour, music, and many 'revealing' surprises. We stay two nights in New Westminster at the Inn at the Quay, built on a pier jutting into the Fraser River.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Inn at the Quay

Friday, September 13

We board the **MV Gikumi** for a four-hour excursion down the last 30 km of the Fraser River. At Steveston, the Fraser finally flows into the Strait of Georgia and we cruise offshore to see its brown fresh water mingling with the blue salt water. A Spanish captain, José María Narváez, is credited with being the first European to see the Fraser River in 1791 when he saw "a vast brown stain lying upon the sea." He called it Boca de Florida Blanca and noted that the water was "more sweet than salt". Don't miss your tour director's "Water Ceremony" where a bottle of water collected from the Fraser's source is poured into the ocean, completing our journey along the entire river. Back on shore, we tour the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site, then return to New Westminster by coach. We visit the Fraser River Discovery Center and hear a guest speaker talk about the Fraser River, then enjoy a farewell dinner.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Inn at the Quay

Saturday, September 14

We journey home. Passengers travelling to the BC Interior will have a stop at Bridal Falls.

Meals included: **1** Breakfast, Lunch

VL Breakfast



Hell's Gate in the Fraser Canyon

TOUR NOTES

THE MIGHTY FRASER *"Our past, present and future are linked with the Fraser. The past saw fur-traders, the gold rush of 1858, and early settlers. The present sees waters teeming with migrating salmon and a highway and railways confined to the gorge carved by the river. The Fraser, beautiful, bountiful and powerful, must always flow in the pattern of our future."*

So read one of British Columbia's stop-of-interest plaques, erected in the early 1960s by the Department of Recreation & Conservation to provide travellers with 50-word snippets of roadside history. "The Mighty Fraser" plaque was located on the Trans-Canada Highway near Laidlaw and was relocated to the riverside park in Hope when the freeway was built in the 1980s.

The message is still true today, 60 years later, because the Fraser is truly British Columbia's great river. Flowing entirely within the province, it starts from a spring 50 km south of Yellowhead Pass and ends, 1390 km later, in the Strait of Georgia near Vancouver. Along the Fraser's tortuous route, it races past Mount Robson, highest in the Canadian Rockies; it tumbles over Rearguard Falls where salmon can swim no further; it meanders for 250 km through the broad Rocky Mountain Trench; it flows past old homesteads like the Huble Farm and under historic crossings such as the Lillooet and Alexandra Suspension Bridges; it passes industrial cities like Prince George and Quesnel; it plunges through the awesome Fraser Canyon and squeezes through Hell's Gate. At the end of its journey, the Fraser spreads out into multiple channels and carries its huge load of sediment quietly into the ocean at Steveston.

The Fraser River's intrigue is not only its geography, but the vital role it has played in British Columbia's history. First Nations tribes lived and worked on its banks long before Europeans arrived; fur traders such as Simon Fraser and Alexander Mackenzie travelled on its waters over 200 years ago; thousands of miners sought gold on its sandbars in the 1850s; a route for the Canadian Pacific Railway was blasted through its canyons in the 1880s; and Vancouver grew from hamlet to metropolis at its outlet.

The source of the Fraser River was discovered by a Beautiful British Columbia Magazine team in the mid-1980s. The nearest road is 50 km away and there is no trail to the site, so the only access is by a helicopter. Fewer than 200 people, most of them travelling with Wells Gray Tours, have seen the remarkable phenomenon of a tiny dripping spring flowing into a pond from where the 15-cm wide Fraser River starts its long journey to the ocean. This tour lets you experience the thrill of a helicopter ride, as well as planting your feet on each side of the not-so-mighty Fraser. You have bragging rights for a truly unique opportunity!

In the United States, there is lots of enthusiasm for its great river, the Mississippi. Coach tours follow it from source to mouth and sightseeing vessels ply its waters to the end of navigation. In 2000, Roland Neave, owner of Wells Gray Tours, reasoned that if Americans can celebrate the Mississippi, we should do the same with British Columbia's own great river, the Fraser, and so this tour was born in 2001. The tour has been offered every 3 to 4 years since and 2008 was a special year being the 200th Anniversary of Simon Fraser's journey down his namesake river in 1808. Come and join Wells Gray Tours' own celebration of Simon Fraser and the mighty Fraser as you follow it from source to mouth.

Accommodation: Some nights of this tour are "off the beaten track" so please do not expect luxury hotels in Valemount and Cache Creek. Although Lillooet would be a logical overnight stop, there are no accommodations that we consider suitable.

Helicopter: Most people have never flown in a helicopter and it is an exhilarating experience. We will not know the capacity of the helicopter until early September, probably 4-6 passengers. The flight to the Fraser River source is arranged with Yellowhead Helicopters, based in Valemount. Depending on numbers, flights may go from their base in Valemount or from near Yellowhead Pass. A safety briefing is provided.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$300 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due July 16, 2024. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard (\$5,000 limit per person on credit cards).

Early Booking Bonus: Early bookers receive \$240 discount on first 8 seats and \$120 on next 4 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after July 16, 2024.

Cancellation Policy: Up to June 17, 2024, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From June 18 to July 16, the cancellation charge is \$200 per person. From July 17 to August 1, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. After August 1, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Due to continuing after effects of the pandemic, 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 for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details.

VL Flight delays due to weather: In the event flights are delayed or cancelled by airlines due to weather, there may be additional costs to you. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. will not pay for hotel rooms and meals during the delay. Most travel insurance policies cover expenses incurred for weather delays.

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

Photo Credits: Roland Neave (Chilcotin Bridge, Huble Homestead), Mount Robson Rafting, tour director Marion (Fraser River), and Adobe Stock (Hell's Gate).

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 105 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn e-points that are added to your account after the tour returns. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your earned points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until July 16, 2024.

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

WE PLAN.
YOU PACK.
NO WORRIES!

www.wellsgraytours.com
1-800-667-9552



Our offices are open for walk-in traffic or by appointment

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Kamloops, BC
V2C 1X7
250-374-0831

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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 East
Penticton, BC
V2A 8B6
250-493-1255

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

Fraser River From Source To Mouth — September 5, 2024

This tour is rated “Activity Level 3” by the tour planners at Wells Gray Tours, using our new activity scale with 4 levels. This rating means there is a lot of activity as described here:



High Activity: You are an active traveller who wants to explore wherever you go.

You don't mind a mix of full days, early morning starts, and some late nights. This is a unique tour with lots of activity and time outdoors while you experience many aspects of the Fraser River. The trip to the source of the Fraser requires getting in

and out of a helicopter, and walking about ½ km in an alpine meadow at 2,000 metres altitude. On other days, you are boarding a large raft and two boats. A walk occurs at Farwell Canyon. This tour has activity ranging from somewhat rigorous to sedentary. You can climb three flights of stairs easily and unassisted, and can handle your own luggage at hotels where luggage handling may not be available. This tour is not appropriate for people with canes, walkers, wheelchairs, or other mobility assistance devices.

Since a few people who are not capable of doing these activities can hold up the entire group, Wells Gray Tours expects everybody booking a tour with “Activity Level 3” to be reasonably fit. 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” on the new scale with 4 levels.
- I have read the brochure with the full itinerary and description of the activities that are typical on this tour.
- I understand that this is the second 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 travel insurance may cover this.
- If I am not capable of keeping up with the group or require ongoing assistance, I understand that the Wells Gray tour director has the right to stop me from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, I acknowledge that I may be required to leave the tour and travel home at my own expense, and 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 _____

Your Tour Experience

PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

ACCOMMODATIONS: The hotels named in the tour descriptions are confirmed at the time the brochure is printed. It is very unusual for changes to occur, but clients will be notified whenever possible.

- **Hotel Lists:** Your ticket package contains a hotel list, which gives the hotel name, address, and phone number. You can leave this list with family/friends so you can be contacted while on your tour.

- **Special rooming requests:** If you wish to have a ground floor room where there is no elevator, a lower floor room in a high-rise hotel, or a room adjacent to another traveller, please make this request at the time you book your tour. Although we make every effort to confirm your request by passing the information onto the hotels, it cannot be guaranteed.

- **Class of Room:** Our choice of accommodation is in the deluxe to first class range. We try to strike a happy medium by maintaining a high standard of hotels while keeping a close eye on costs. Most hotels we use are members of the National Tour Association or approved by the Canadian or American Automobile Association. AAA rating is usually ♦♦♦ or better.

ROOM PARTNERS: Our reservation system tracks partner requests, and you can add your name to our partner request list, or we can provide you with the name and phone number of a possible partner. Together you can decide if you are compatible and would like to travel together.

SINGLES: Some hotels limit the number of single rooms assigned to each group, so people travelling alone should make reservations early. On a full tour, singles are requested to sit with other singles on the coach, so that travelling companions can sit together.

SEAT ROTATION: This is mandatory on all tours, and your tour director will describe the pattern and the frequency of the moves. For fairness to other clients, exceptions will not be made.

BOARDING PASS: Your ticket package contains a boarding pass which we request you fill out and give to the tour director upon departure. This contains essential information that the tour director would require in case of an emergency. Note that these are shredded after the tour returns to protect your privacy.

SMOKING POLICY: All motorcoaches are non-smoking, but rest stops are frequent. If smoking outdoors, please be considerate of those clients who may have allergies to smoke. Also note that many hotels are entirely non-smoking.

FOOD ALLERGIES: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. Some tours go to remote places where restaurants may not be able to satisfy all food allergies. Please do not tell us about your food preferences, as restaurants ignore these requests. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

ITINERARY NOTES: Some tours have choices for attractions or accommodation, and sometimes there are attractions that are at an additional cost and listed as optional. Please choose these options when you book your tour as some are limited in space. If you wish to leave the tour at any time to visit friends and family, you are certainly welcome to do so. Please ensure that the tour director is informed and note that Wells Gray Tours Ltd. will not make a refund for any missed or unused portions of the tour package.

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you require ongoing assistance in any way, you must be accompanied by a travelling companion who will be fully responsible for your needs while on tour. Your tour director cannot provide ongoing assistance. Some tours may not be suitable due to the level of activity, so please discuss your needs with us when you book your tour. Please note that coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair.

DEPARTURE TIMES: We suggest that you arrive at your departure point no later than 15 minutes prior to the time shown on your ticket. The first day of a tour usually has many stops for client pick up. Please turn on your cell phone so the tour director can notify you if the coach is late.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Insurance is **not included** in tour fares, but it is available for purchase. We strongly recommend purchasing insurance to protect the non-refundable portion of your fare and to provide coverage for unexpected events. Our policies are underwritten by AIG Insurance Company of Canada. Policy must be purchased no later than the time of final payment. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause as relates to cancellation, upgrade, or trip interruption. A detailed brochure is available. Premiums are always subject to change until paid as insurance companies can change premiums without notice.

GRATUITIES: Gratuities are at your discretion; however, they are a significant portion of income for these professionals. Please use local currency. The following are guidelines:

- **Tour director and coach driver:** \$7 CAD per person per day to the tour director and \$5 per person per day to the driver. Please do not start a group collection. The most discreet method is to place the tip in an envelope and on the final day either hand it to the tour director or driver or leave it on her/his seat.

- **Meals:** In Canada and the USA, 15-20% of the pre-tax bill; note: For included meals, gratuities have been included.

- **Housekeeping staff:** \$2 per person per night local currency.

- **Luggage handling:** \$2 per bag. Note: Tip for one piece of luggage at hotel is usually included.

- **Transfer driver with luggage handling:** \$2 per person.

LOST ITEMS: Clients disembarking at the end of a tour are urged to check that they have all their personal belongings with them. Lost items are usually held in Kamloops or Victoria Wells Gray offices.

CURRENCY: Your credit card is a convenient way to pay for many meals and purchases. ATMs are easily accessible in Canada and the USA but may be difficult to find in other countries. You should also carry some cash with you in the currency of that country for gratuities and in case credit cards cannot be used.

LUGGAGE: The limit per person is one large suitcase, weighing no more than 50 lbs., and a small carry-on bag. A luggage tag is included in your ticket package. The Wells Gray tag is essential for the efficient handling of bags at hotels. Please attach the completed tag to your suitcase before arriving at your departure point. If you are on a cruise, please do not attach your cruise luggage tag until the morning of embarkation. Airlines charge a fee for checked luggage on Canada and USA flights. This is included in your tour fare if the airline allows Wells Gray to prepay this fee, but if payment is required at the airport, you must pay this directly to the airline at check-in.

COMMENT SHEETS: We always strive to improve, and comments from our customers are very important. Your tour director will hand out a comment sheet during the tour (with a confidential envelope if desired), so you can tell us what you think. To maintain a high standard of service, Wells Gray management reads every client's comments and discusses any problems and praises with the hotels, motorcoach company, other suppliers, and our staff.

TOUR PACKAGE: Your tour price includes all items listed in the "What's Included" section in the tour brochure. GST on applicable tours is extra.

Terms & Conditions

PAYMENTS: A deposit is required within three days of booking and is outlined in each tour brochure. If a deposit or balance becomes overdue and we cannot contact you, your reservation will be cancelled. By placing a deposit, you agree to the Terms and Conditions. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard (\$5,000 limit per person on credit cards). If your cheque payment returns as 'non-sufficient funds', Wells Gray Tours Ltd. must charge you a \$25 NSF fee.

CANCELLATIONS: The cancellation policy for each tour is described in detail in the tour brochure. If you cancel after the final payment date, without paying in full, you forfeit the full deposit paid.

CONSUMER PROTECTION: In British Columbia, Consumer Protection BC requires that any business or organization that collects advance deposits from people for future travel must be registered with the government and must hold those deposits in trust. This protects consumer deposits in the unlikely event of bankruptcy. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. is also a member in good standing of the National Tour Association, which requires its members to carry at least \$1 million in professional liability, errors, and omission insurance.

BORDER CROSSING: For any travel outside of Canada, a valid passport is required. Passport numbers and expiry dates are required in advance for many tours, and this information will be collected before final payment. Clients are responsible for ensuring that they have valid documentation for all border crossings. Clients without valid documents may be detained by Customs Officers and therefore miss their tour. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. cannot assume responsibility for portions of a tour missed due to improper documentation.

ROOM PARTNERS: Wells Gray Tours Ltd. cannot assume responsibility for added costs due to disagreements encountered while travelling or for cancellations by one party of a double or twin accommodation room prior to departure.

LUGGAGE & LOST ITEMS: Luggage insurance is not included in your fare. Please note that neither Wells Gray Tours Ltd. nor the motorcoach company can assume responsibility for lost or damaged luggage or its contents.

ITINERARY: Expect the unexpected. If you are unable to participate in all aspects of the itinerary, Wells Gray Tours Ltd. will not issue a refund or provide a fare reduction for any missed or unused portions of the tour package. If any unforeseen delays, cancellations, changes, or add-ons happen that are beyond Wells Gray Tours control, (or by customer choice) there may be extra costs involved that may be passed onto you, the client, after the trip returns. There is no guarantee of refunds or reimbursements.

EXPERIENCE POINTS: Each time you travel with Wells Gray Tours, you earn Experience Points (e-points). The number of e-points you earn is written on the front page of each tour brochure. Your e-points will be awarded to you after your tour returns and can then be redeemed on future tours. E-Points must be earned before they can be redeemed. 1 e-point is equivalent to \$1.00.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Wells Gray Tours Ltd. and its designated tour director reserve the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof and to use the resulting photography or videos for promotion on Facebook, the Wells Gray Tours Ltd. website or for other commercial uses. By making a reservation with Wells Gray Tours Ltd., you agree to allow your likeness to be used by Wells Gray Tours Ltd. without compensation to you. If you prefer that your likeness not be used, please notify us in writing at final payment, or give a note to the tour director on the first day.

CHANGES TO FARES: Due to the uncertainties of inflation, fuel surcharges, taxes and foreign exchange, Wells Gray Tours Ltd. reserves the right to modify tour fares in the event of cost changes.

COVID-19: Some countries we are visiting may require all tour participants to be tested for Covid-19 prior to departure and/or be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at least 14 days prior to departure. You are responsible for ensuring you meet the requirements for the countries they you are visiting. **Expect changes to the itinerary.** It may not be possible to communicate changes ahead of departure.

FACE MASK REQUIREMENTS: Although it is not mandatory, Wells Gray Tours strongly encourages everyone to wear a face mask at airports, in public places, and onboard motor coaches, ships and airplanes. If you unfortunately become ill with Covid-19, you can still ride on the coaches in the rear seat, but you must wear a KN-95 or N-95 mask.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS: Wells Gray Tours Ltd. has no special knowledge regarding the financial condition of any supplier or the existence of unsafe conditions, health hazards, weather hazards, political conditions, or climate extremes at locations to which you may travel. For information about these concerns, we recommend contacting the Travel Advice Section of the Government of Canada website at travel.gc.ca. For public-health information, we recommend contacting the BC Centers for Disease Control at 604-707-2400 or bccdc.ca. The responsibility for checking and verifying all passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destination(s) and all conditions regarding health, safety, security, political stability, and labour or civil unrest at such destination(s) solely belongs to the traveller. Each tour has many suppliers, each with their own policies or rules which you are expected to abide by while on their premises. It is extremely rare, but suppliers can close unexpectedly overnight or declare bankruptcy. Funds that we have deposited with them on your behalf may not be recoverable and therefore not refundable to you.

PRIVACY: Information collected by Wells Gray Tours Ltd. for purposes of the tour or marketing or to assist attending personnel in the event of an emergency is confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties.

FORCE MAJEURE: In the circumstances amounting to force majeure, Wells Gray Tours will not be required to refund any money to you, although if Wells Gray Tours can recover any monies from our suppliers, we will refund these to you. Suppliers may choose to provide travel vouchers or credits in lieu of refund. Wells Gray Tours is not responsible for a supplier's failure to pay a refund.

RESPONSIBILITY

Neither Wells Gray Tours Ltd., nor any of its agents or representatives shall be held liable or responsible directly or indirectly for any delay, injury, loss or damage to any person or property, occasioned by the neglect or default of any person or company providing transportation, accommodation or any other services in connection with these tours, or damages resulting directly or indirectly from act of God, sickness, strike, quarantine, weather, government restraints, machinery breakdown, or any other cause beyond our control. Wells Gray Tours Ltd. acts as an agent for its suppliers, including but not limited to companies providing transportation, accommodation, and other services rendered. The right is reserved to withdraw all, or part of any tour should conditions warrant and make such alterations in the itinerary as may be found necessary for the convenience and proper operation of any tour, without penalty.