THANKSGIVING ON THE ISLAND

October 2024

WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience

Salt Spring Island

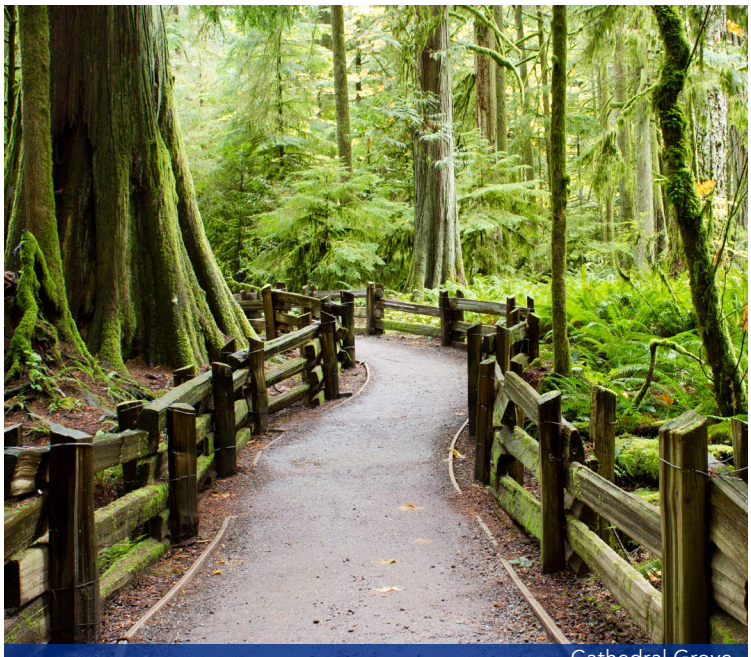
With Salt Spring Island & Parksville

Artisans and specialty producers abound in the Gulf Islands and on Vancouver Island. World class craftsmen are drawn here by the laid back idyllic lifestyle, and they stay because they find a vibrant market for their products. The seaside village of Ganges is a focal point for unique shops, highlighted by its Saturday Market. Chemainus has numerous craft shops, galleries, and dozens of murals. In Parksville, we stay at an oceanfront hotel and visit attractions such as Cathedral Grove, Englishman River Falls, and Coombs Market. One show is featured – *The Piano Teacher* in Chemainus. Happy Thanksgiving with Wells Gray Tours!

CANADIAN

2
ACTIVITY LEVEL

- **Fares per person**
  from **$2,395** double, **$2,870** single*
  **pricing details for triples provided on page 2.*
- **Early Booking Bonus**
  $80 discount on first 12 seats; **$40** on next 8.
- **Earn 62 Experience Points**
- **Departure from:**
  Lower Mainland



Cathedral Grove

DEPARTURE POINTS & DATES

L Lower Mainland: October 11, 2024 – 6 Days

WELLS GRAY TOURS
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Your specific departure point will be confirmed at the time of booking. Passengers travelling from the Lower Mainland will begin and end the tour as follows:

Lower Mainland: We depart on Friday, October 11 and take the ferry to Salt Spring Island. We take the ferry from Duke Point to Tsawwassen on Wednesday, October 16. Home pickup in the Greater Vancouver Area can be arranged at the time of booking.

Departure from Abbotsford or Chilliwack: Please refer to the BC Interior brochure for departure information, itinerary, and pricing.

BC INTERIOR BROCHURE

FARES PER PERSON

Departure Point	Fares Per person	Notes
L Lower Mainland	**$2,395** double/twin **$2,870** single **$2,270** triple	• Please add 5% GST. • BC Seniors (65 & over) receive a $17 discount extended by BC Ferries with BC Services Card.

Beach in Parksville

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Meals

- **11 meals:** 5 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners

Transportation

- Coach transportation for 6 days
- Ferry from Tsawwassen to Salt Spring Island
- Ferry from Salt Spring Island to Crofton
- Ferry from Duke Point to Tsawwassen

Accommodation

- 5 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Luggage handling at most hotels

Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

Highlights

- Salt Spring Wild Cider tour
- Ruckle Point Provincial Park
- *The Piano Teacher* at Chemainus Theatre
- Pacific Northwest Raptors Centre
- Merridale Cidery tour
- Wine tasting at Averill Creek Vineyard
- Cathedral Grove & Englishman River Falls
- Coombs Market

Gratuities

- Gratuities for local guides

Goats at Coombs Market

ITINERARY

Friday, October 11

We board a ferry at Tsawwassen for a three-hour voyage into the **Gulf Islands**. Brief stops are made at Galiano, Mayne, and Pender Islands, then we disembark at Long Harbour on **Salt Spring Island** about 1 pm. Our first stop is at Salt Spring Wild Cider which makes artisanal craft ciders from the heritage apples and pears that grow here. We continue to Ruckle Point Provincial Park and stroll some pleasant trails along the ocean. We stay two nights in Ganges, the only town on Salt Spring Island.

Meals included: Dinner
Accommodation: Harbour House Hotel

Saturday, October 12

Salt Spring Island is home to numerous artisans who practice skills from painting to pottery and many others. The Saturday Market in Ganges is a chance to show off their creations and it is well-known for its great variety of offerings, not only arts and crafts, but also produce, books, and clothing. It's a very busy market, as shoppers come from Vancouver Island and the mainland. The coach cannot move today because of the street closures, but it is less than a 15-minute walk from the hotel to the market. Enjoy a free day and hopefully you will find something you love at the market.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Accommodation: Harbour House Hotel

Sunday, October 13

We ride a mid-morning ferry from Salt Spring Island to Crofton on Vancouver Island. There is free time in **Chemainus** to view its dozens of colourful murals and browse the shops. At noon, we go to Chemainus Theatre for a superb buffet lunch followed by a matinee performance of ***The Piano Teacher***.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Best Western Chemainus Inn

Monday, October 14

Happy Thanksgiving! At the **Pacific Northwest Raptor Centre**, British Columbia's first falconry facility, marvel at the Birds of Prey flying demonstration featuring falcons, eagles, owls, and hawks. Next we go to **Merridale Cidery** to learn about cider craftsmanship as knowledgeable storytellers guide you through the production process. Wander through the cider apple orchard and visit the cellar for a look at traditional methods. Lunch at Merridale is served with cider of course. Later we are treated to a tour at **Averill Creek Winery** with tasting. We stay two nights in Parksville at the Bayside Resort with a beautiful location overlooking the bay. Savour a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Bayside Oceanfront Resort

Tuesday, October 15

A morning drive near Parksville includes **Coombs Market**, full of interesting shops, and known for the goats grazing on its roof. Nearby sights are Englishman River Falls and the humbling giant trees of Cathedral Grove. The afternoon is leisure time and you may want to stroll the boardwalk along the waterfront.

Meals included: Breakfast
Accommodation: Bayside Oceanfront Resort

Wednesday, October 16

We ride a mid-morning ferry from Duke Point to Tsawwassen and travel home.

Meals included: Breakfast

THANKSGIVING LONG WEEKEND THEATRE

The Piano Teacher

The Piano Teacher is a Governor General's award-winning play about loss, love, friendship, and the healing power of music. When classical pianist Erin experiences a devastating family tragedy, she finds herself unable to play music or even touch a piano. Navigating through the traumatic loss of the life she knew, she meets an unconventional piano teacher, Elaine, who gives her new hope for the future.

Activity Level 2

Moderate Activity: As a traveller you like a variety of activities and walking up to 2 km over the course of a day with breaks such as a guided walking tour is very doable for you without assistance. You can stand for prolonged periods, negotiate a variety of terrain from cobblestone streets to moderate hills comfortably and can climb two flights of stairs without assistance.

This tour includes short distances to walk such as at Ruckle Point, Englishman River Falls, and Cathedral Grove. There could be some stairs to reach your theatre seats. The walk from the hotel to the Salt Spring Saturday Market is less than 1 km or 15 mins each way. Seeing everything mentioned in this itinerary requires participation at Activity Level 2. There are many stops during this tour and you must be able to get on and off the coach by yourself without delaying your fellow travellers. The coach cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. Be prepared to carry your own luggage at Parksville. The hotel on Salt Spring Island does not have an elevator. 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.

Tour Size 40
This tour can accommodate 40 passengers.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of $200 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due August 9, 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.

Early Booking Bonus: Receive an $80 discount on the first 12 seats and $40 on the next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after August 9, 2024.

BC Seniors (65 & over): $17 discount offered by BC Ferries. Please bring your BC Services Card.

Cancellation Policy: Up to July 9, 2024, the cancellation charge is $50 per person. From July 10 to August 9, the cancellation charge is $100 per person. From August 10 to September 9, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. After September 9, 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.

TOUR POLICIES continued

Show cancellation: It rarely happens, but actors occasionally get sick, or some mishap causes the cancellation of a show. This can occur even shortly before the performance begins. We know that this would be extremely disappointing for our customers, but the only refund we would be able to obtain for you would be the actual ticket price of the show. The hotel, motorcoach, and other tour services are all prepaid and are non-refundable at short notice.

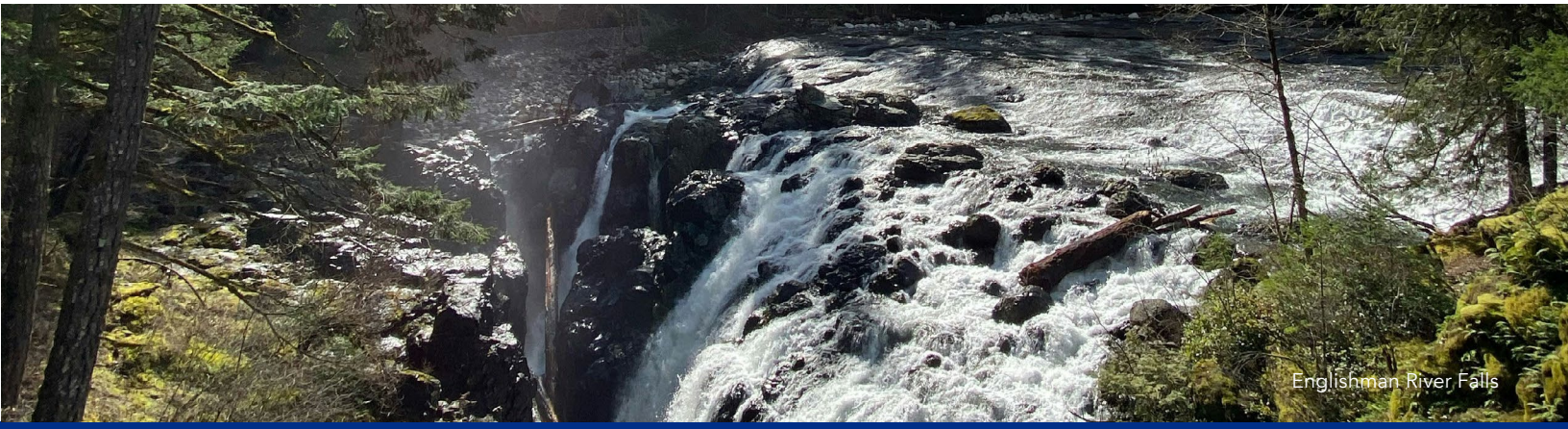
Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to some remote places where restaurants may not be able to satisfy all food allergies. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your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

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. This tour stays in British Columbia. While your BC CareCard may cover you for a medical issue that arises during the tour, you will probably benefit from trip cancellation and trip interruption coverage in case of illness or a mishap before or during the tour. Many other benefits such as luggage insurance are included. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details. If you have your own travel insurance, please read the policy carefully to be sure that you are adequately covered for cancellation, interruption, and luggage.

Photo Credits: Adobe Stock (Salt Spring Island, Cathedral Grove), tour director Pat (Beach in Parksville), Coombs Market, and Unsplash (Englishman River Falls).

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 62 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 August 9, 2024.

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



Englishman River Falls

WE PLAN.
YOU PACK.
NO WORRIES!

www.wellsgraytours.com

1-800-667-9552

Offices are open weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm. Book an appointment or walk-in and visit us.

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

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

WELLS GRAY TOURS
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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.

WELLS GRAY TOURS
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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.