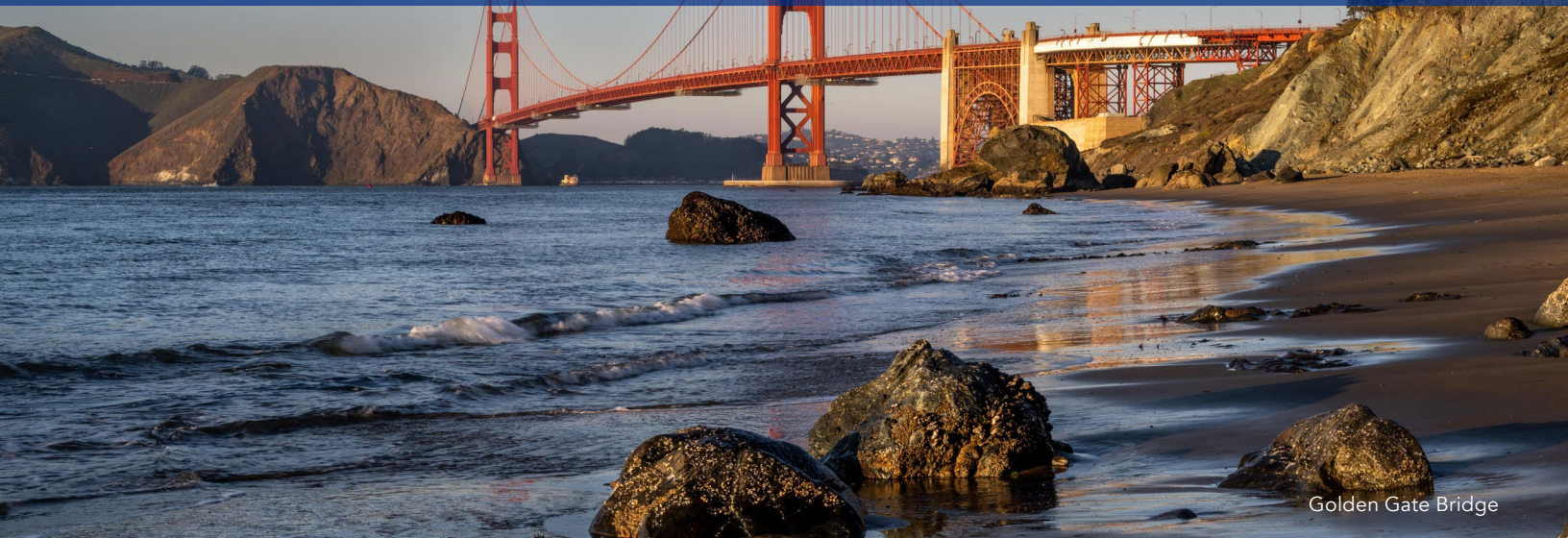


PACIFIC COASTAL CRUISE WITH CATALINA ISLAND

September 2025

**WELLS GRAY TOURS**
a world to experience



Golden Gate Bridge

Includes San Francisco & Queen Mary

With cruising proving to be more popular than ever, here is a pleasant 6-day cruise on Holland America's *Nieuw Amsterdam*. We board in Vancouver, spend a day in San Francisco, and disembark in San Diego. The ship has lots of veranda staterooms which are the most popular nowadays, but insides, outsides, and suites are also available. After the cruise, we enjoy an extended stay for 2 nights and a day on fascinating Catalina Island. Another highlight is a night on board the historic *Queen Mary* which is permanently moored at Long Beach. Join Wells Gray Tours for a wonderful cruise, plus Catalina Island and the *Queen Mary*.



CRUISE TOUR



ACTIVITY LEVEL

► Departure from:

- ① **BC Interior:** September 27, 2025 - 12 Days
- ② **Vancouver Island:** September 27, 2025 - 12 Days
- ③ **Lower Mainland:** September 28, 2025 - 11 Days

► Fares per person

- ④ from **\$5,010** double/twin, **\$6,510** single*
- *Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.

► Early Booking Bonus

\$250 discount on first 12 seats; **\$125** on next 8.

► Earn 105 Experience Points



Nieuw Amsterdam

Providing Quality Packaged Travel Since 1972

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 on Saturday, September 27 and drive to New Westminster where we stay overnight at the Inn at the Quay. We board the cruise the following day. We return on Wednesday, October 8, flying from Los Angeles to Kelowna. Transportation is provided to and from your pickup point.

V Vancouver Island: We depart on Saturday, September 27 and travel to New Westminster where we stay overnight at the Inn at the Quay. We board the cruise the following day. We return on Wednesday, October 8, flying from Los Angeles to Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox.

Departure from Victoria: Depending on the number of people booked and coach size, home pickups may be offered in the Greater Victoria Area. The decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

Departure from Up-Island: There is an additional cost to fly from Nanaimo or Comox to Vancouver on Saturday, September 27. Transportation to/from Nanaimo or Comox Airport is not provided. Please note that while we always prioritize convenient connections for our clients, sometimes it is not possible given the airline schedule and availability. You will be contacted regarding your schedule after final payment. Please request departure from Nanaimo or Comox at the time of booking.

L Lower Mainland: We depart on Sunday, September 28 and board the cruise in Vancouver. We return on Wednesday, October 8, flying from Los Angeles to Vancouver or Abbotsford. Home pickup in the Greater Vancouver Area can be arranged at the time of booking.

Departure from Abbotsford or Chilliwack: Pickup is available via the main coach on Saturday, September 27. Transportation is not provided from Abbotsford Airport on Wednesday, October 8. Please refer to BC Interior pricing and dates.

FARES PER PERSON

Departure Point	Inside Stateroom Category I	Oceanview Stateroom Category C	Veranda Stateroom Category VA	Neptune Suite Category SA
I BC Interior	\$5,115 double \$6,740 single	\$5,365 double \$7,195 single	\$5,765 double \$8,205 single	\$8,615 double \$13,910 single
V Vancouver Island	\$5,290 double \$6,915 single	\$5,540 double \$7,370 single	\$5,940 double \$8,380 single	\$8,790 double \$14,085 single
L Lower Mainland	\$5,010 double \$6,510 single	\$5,260 double \$6,965 single	\$5,660 double \$7,975 single	\$8,510 double \$13,680 single

- Please add 0.3% GST.
- Please add \$129 per person to double fares above for twin fare.
- Triple fares and other categories are also available.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

▶ Meals

- 📍 **23 total:** 8 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 7 dinners
- 📍 **22 total:** 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 7 dinners

▶ Transportation

- Transportation to Vancouver cruise terminal from the BC Interior, Greater Vancouver, & Greater Victoria Areas
- 6 days cruising on *Nieuw Amsterdam*
- 2 days of coach transportation
- Ferry from Dana Point to Catalina Island
- Ferry from Catalina Island to Long Beach
- Transfer from ferry terminal to *Queen Mary*
- Transfer from *Queen Mary* to Los Angeles airport
- Flight from Los Angeles to Kelowna, Vancouver, Abbotsford, Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox
- Current air transport taxes & security fees
- Transfer from airport to your pickup point in the BC Interior, Greater Vancouver, or Greater Victoria Area

▶ Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

▶ Accommodation

- Stateroom for 6 nights on *Nieuw Amsterdam*
- 📍 **4** nights of hotel accommodation & taxes
- 📍 **3** nights of hotel accommodation & taxes
- 1 night in a deluxe class stateroom on *Queen Mary*
- Port charges & cruise taxes
- Luggage handling at most hotels & ship

▶ Key Highlights

- Birch Aquarium
- Maritime Museum
- Museum of Making Music
- "Journey to the Sky" tour on Catalina
- Catalina Casino VIP Backstage tour
- "Glory Days Historical Tour" on *Queen Mary*

Attractions are subject to change. Please see Tour Policies for more information.

▶ Gratuities

- Cruise gratuities
- Gratuities for *Queen Mary* guide & California guides & drivers

Activity Level 2



Moderate activity: As a traveller you like a variety of activities and walking up to 2 km with breaks such as on a guided walking tour is very doable for you without assistance. You can stand for prolonged periods and can climb two flights of stairs without assistance. There is a 15-minute walk from the Catalina ferry terminal to the hotel and back. There is lots of walking and stairs on the *Queen Mary* if you do the full self-guided tour, but you can exit at several points. Please be aware that on tours with flights and cruises you must handle your own luggage to the check in counter and from baggage claim. You can walk longer distances in airports and cruise terminals.

You may bring a cane or walking poles if needed. The coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. 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 participants.



ITINERARY

San Francisco

Saturday, September 27 Passengers from the BC Interior and Vancouver Island travel to New Westminster and stay overnight at the Inn at the Quay, overlooking the Fraser River.

Note: While it may seem unnecessary to travel to the Lower Mainland the day before your cruise, highways and ferries can have long closures or flights can be cancelled which would cause you to miss your ship's departure.

Meals included: ① Lunch

Accommodation: ① ② Inn at the Quay

Sunday, September 28 Take a stroll along the riverfront boardwalk this morning. Passengers from the Lower Mainland join us, and we board the **Nieuw Amsterdam** about noon. An embarkation buffet lunch is served in the Lido Market. The afternoon is free time to get familiar with the ship. We sail from Canada Place at 3 pm with a festive "Farewell to Vancouver" deck party as we pass under Lions Gate Bridge. Savour your first wonderful dinner, followed by a lively stage show or many other evening activities.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Nieuw Amsterdam*

Monday, September 29 The *Nieuw Amsterdam* docks in Victoria from 7 am to 2 pm. Take a walk along the waterfront or Inner Harbour or visit some local friends. If you live in Victoria, enjoy having the ship's facilities almost to yourself while most passengers are on shore. After departure, we cruise through the Strait of Juan de Fuca and round Cape Flattery to turn south.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Nieuw Amsterdam*

Tuesday, September 30 Enjoy a relaxing day at sea. Although we are in the open Pacific, the *Nieuw Amsterdam* is remarkably smooth because it is equipped with the best stabilizers. How do you want to spend your day? The ship's daily newsletter keeps you informed about scheduled activities like stage shows, movies, bingo games, group fitness, and game times in lounges. Schedule a treatment at the spa, get some advice on a workout plan at the fitness centre, or sidle up to the wine tasting bar to sample wines from around the world. The choices are many.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Nieuw Amsterdam*

Wednesday, October 1 Most of the day is also at sea. Late this evening, the *Nieuw Amsterdam* makes a dramatic entrance to **San Francisco**, passing under the amazing Golden Gate Bridge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Nieuw Amsterdam*

Thursday, October 2 This is a free day to explore San Francisco as you wish — take a ship's shore excursion, book a tour on the dock, stroll Fisherman's Wharf, ride a historic cablecar, or browse the shops of Pier 39. The *Nieuw Amsterdam* sails at 6 pm. If you missed the Golden Gate Bridge last night, here is another chance to see it from below.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Nieuw Amsterdam*

ITINERARY *continued*

Friday, October 3

This is a day of cruising off the California Coast. Enjoy all the facilities on board. Tonight or sometime during the cruise, you may wish to dine in the Pinnacle Grill, Tamarind, or Canaletto restaurants for a special experience (make a reservation in advance).

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Nieuw Amsterdam*

Saturday, October 4

The *Nieuw Amsterdam* docks in **San Diego** and we disembark about 9 am. Our coach and driver are waiting at the pier. In La Jolla, we visit the **Birch Aquarium** which contains over 30 tanks teeming with life typical of the waters from the west coast to the tropical seas. Later, we explore the **Maritime Museum** on the San Diego waterfront which features many nautical displays and three historic ships including the Star of India, the world's oldest active ship. We stay overnight at the Embassy Suites San Diego Bay. Enjoy the Manager's Reception with your fellow travellers.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Embassy Suites San Diego Bay

Sunday, October 5

We head up the coast to Carlsbad for a visit to **the Museum of Making Music**. It celebrates the music products industry with hundreds of vintage instruments on display. Each gallery features the historic milestones, popular music and instruments of those eras. At Dana Point, we board the passenger ferry to **Avalon on Santa Catalina Island**. The Wrigley Gum company bought the island in 1919 and has carefully controlled its development for the past century. In 1975, 88% of the island was deeded to the Catalina Island Conservancy, founded by the Wrigleys, and it still protects the island today. About 3,700 people live on Catalina, almost all in the island's only town, Avalon. Its cobblestone streets are narrow, quaint, and winding, so the Wrigleys regulated the number of cars allowed, and today there is a 14-year waiting list to bring a car to the island. Most people get around by walking or using electric golf carts. Avalon is dominated by the **Catalina Casino**, a huge Art Deco building on the waterfront. It was built by the Wrigleys in 1929 as an entertainment centre and contained a 1,100-seat movie theatre and a ballroom where 6,000 people could dance, but it has never been a gambling casino.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Atwater Hotel, Avalon

Monday, October 6

First, we take the **"Journey to the Sky"** tour which uses low-g geared buses that can navigate the narrow roads to the island's interior. Many roads are single-lane with mirrors at the sharp corners to help the driver spot occasional oncoming vehicles. Along the way, there are splendid views of the island and ocean as we climb nearly 600 metres to the Airport in the Sky. This afternoon, we take a walking tour of the Catalina Casino. Listen to stories about this magnificent structure, test the perfect acoustics in the ballroom, and enjoy the view of Avalon from the balcony. Ours is the more extensive behind-the-scenes tour, not the basic introduction that most visitors get.

Meals included: Lunch

Accommodation: Atwater Hotel, Avalon



ITINERARY continued

Tuesday, October 7

We ride a morning ferry to Long Beach. A landmark in the harbour is the famous luxury liner **RMS Queen Mary** and we stay overnight on board. The ship completed 1,000 trans-Atlantic crossings for Cunard Line from 1936 to 1967. When she was retired, Long Beach outbid a Japanese scrap yard and the ship was permanently moored there as a tourist attraction. Extensive renovations followed and the *Queen Mary* reopened in 1971 as a hotel with restaurants and a ship's tour. Our accommodations are in the spacious staterooms once occupied by first-class passengers. This afternoon, join the **"Glory Days Historical Tour"** which delves into the ship's expansive past, including her groundbreaking construction, her time as a troopship during World War II, and her glory days as the world's most luxurious ocean liner. Afterwards, take as long as you wish for the self-guided walking tour which encompasses the engine room up to the bridge with many informative signs along the way. Our farewell dinner is in the Chelsea Restaurant on board.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: *RMS Queen Mary*

Wednesday, October 8

A buffet breakfast is served in the Promenade Café on board. We fly home from Los Angeles Airport.

Meals included: Breakfast



MS NIEUW AMSTERDAM

The *Nieuw Amsterdam* made her inaugural cruise in 2010 after being christened by Princess Maxima of the Netherlands (now the Queen). She is Holland America's second largest design with a capacity of 2,100 passengers. *Nieuw Amsterdam's* gross tonnage is 86,000 and she is 285 metres long. Her 11 decks feature a 1,000-seat live entertainment theatre, nine lounges, casino, shopping arcade, movie theatre, beauty shop, library, games room, Internet centre, spa, gymnasium, and two swimming pools (one with sliding dome cover). *Nieuw Amsterdam* has 14 elevators and four of them are glass with panoramic views. An exquisite \$2 million collection of art and artifacts is showcased throughout the ship with a theme of "The Dutch Golden Age".

Dining is one of the highlights of a cruise. The elegant two-floor Dining Room serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner with full choice of menu. The Lido Market offers buffet-style serving stations for breakfast, lunch, dinner,

and the 11 pm snack. The intimate Pinnacle Grill, the Canaletto Restaurant, and the Tamarind Restaurant offer extraordinary service, reserved seating and gourmet menus for an extra charge. You can also dine in the privacy of your stateroom by ordering from the complimentary room service menu. All meals are culinary delights and you will not go hungry on board!

Staterooms have twin lower beds (some convert to queen-size double), television, music, telephone, and bathroom with toilet, sink, and shower or bathtub. A crew of nearly 900 ensures top-quality service and entertainment. Every day has a full schedule of optional activities: dance class, bridge, bingo, shuffleboard, table-tennis, karaoke, board games, and fitness activities. The movie theatre presents films several times daily and, every evening, there is live entertainment in the Mainstage Theatre plus musicians playing in most lounges.

CRUISE & TOUR NOTES

Please book early: Cruises are incredibly popular nowadays. Ships are filling up faster and earlier than they once did, so waiting too long to book usually means "Sorry, wait till next year." Holland America has confirmed a block of staterooms for this cruise and they are normally held until 90 days before sailing (late June 2025). However, any unsold staterooms can be taken away from us at any time if the ship or even a category fills. This occurs on most of our group cruises, then we must turn away disappointed customers, even though seats are available on the connecting motorcoach. Therefore, please don't delay booking this tour.

Dinner reservations: The *Nieuw Amsterdam* offers both open dining and fixed dining. Open dining is standard, so you can go to a restaurant when you are ready with your friends or make a reservation earlier in the day. The three specialty restaurants take reservations 3 months before sailing or you can book on board (we recommend doing this early in the voyage).

Flight seating: We are unable to take requests for window or aisle seating on the planes. The airline will not accept them, as group seating is assigned as a block. If

this is important to you, we suggest you take the "No Flight" option with a fare reduction of \$290 and book your own flight which allows seat selection.

Food Allergies on cruises: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. During the post-cruise touring, some restaurants may not be able to satisfy all food allergies. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. Most food allergies can be handled at meals on the ship, but you may have to order 24 hours in advance. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

Flight delays or cancellations: Flights can be delayed or cancelled at the last minute, sometimes causing a missed connection. Wells Gray staff will try to assist with rebooking, but the airline usually wants to talk with the individual passenger. There may be an extra payment required if the issue is weather. Wells Gray Tours is not allowed to interfere with this process. Check that your travel insurance policy has a flight delay benefit because that is usually your best recourse for recouping additional flight costs.



TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$600 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due June 10, 2025. 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: Receive a \$250 discount on the first 12 seats and \$125 on the next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after June 10, 2025.

Cancellation Policy: Up to May 9, 2025, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From May 10 to June 10, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From June 11 to July 10, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From July 11 to August 11, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After August 11, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Our many suppliers may notify us 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, currency exchange rates, 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. If you have your own travel insurance, please read the policy carefully to be sure that you are adequately covered for medical, cancellation, interruption, and luggage. Please do not travel to the USA without medical insurance as a minimum.

Photo Credits: Pixabay (Golden Gate Bridge, Catalina Island), Wikimedia (*Nieuw Amsterdam* page 1 & 6, *Queen Mary*), Adobe Stock (San Francisco), and Catalina Island Company (Catalina Casino).

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 June 10, 2025.

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

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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. _____

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