

SEA OF CORTEZ CRUISE

February 2026

WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience



On Holland America's Zuiderdam

Cruising is proving to be more popular than ever, so here is a pleasant 12-day winter getaway cruise on Holland America's Zuiderdam. We fly to San Diego and enjoy a day of museums in Balboa Park. On board the ship, we explore the Baja Peninsula with stops at Cabo San Lucas, Pichilingue (La Paz), and Loreto, then we cross the Sea of Cortez to the Mexican mainland to visit the ports of Guaymas, Topolobampo, Mazatlán, and Puerto Vallarta. This is a great way to escape a Canadian winter!



CRUISE TOUR



ACTIVITY LEVEL

► Departure from:

- ❶ **BC Interior:** February 13, 2026 - 15 Days
- ❷ **Vancouver Island:** February 13, 2026 - 15 Days
- ❸ **Lower Mainland:** February 13, 2026 - 15 Days

► Fares per person

❶ from **\$6,320** double/twin, **\$8,395** single*

*Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.

► Early Booking Bonus

\$300 discount on first 12 seats; **\$150** on next 8.

► Earn 127 Experience Points



Providing Quality Packaged Travel Since 1972

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

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 Friday, February 13, flying from Kelowna to San Diego where we board the cruise. We return on Friday, February 27, flying from San Diego to Kelowna. Transportation is provided to and from your pickup point.
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- V Vancouver Island:** We depart on Friday, February 13, flying from Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox to San Diego where we board the cruise. We return on Friday, February 27, flying from San Diego 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 or to Nanaimo or Comox to join this tour. Transportation to or from Nanaimo or Comox Airport is not provided. 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.
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- L Lower Mainland:** We depart on Friday, February 13, flying from Vancouver to San Diego where we board the cruise. We return on Friday, February 27, flying from San Diego to Vancouver. Home pickup for clients in the Greater Vancouver Area may be arranged at the time of booking.
- Departure from Abbotsford or Chilliwack:** No transportation is provided to or from Vancouver Airport.

FARES PER PERSON

	Departure Point	Inside Stateroom Category I	Oceanview Stateroom Category C	Veranda Stateroom Category VA	Neptune Suite Category SA
I	BC Interior	\$6,320 double/twin \$8,395 single	\$6,720 double/twin \$9,115 single	\$7,405 double/twin \$10,980 single	\$12,590 double/twin \$21,310 single
V	Vancouver Island	\$6,420 double/twin \$8,495 single	\$6,820 double/twin \$9,215 single	\$7,505 double/twin \$11,080 single	\$12,690 double/twin \$21,410 single
L	Lower Mainland	\$6,370 double/twin \$8,445 single	\$6,770 double/twin \$9,165 single	\$7,455 double/twin \$11,030 single	\$12,640 double/twin \$21,360 single

- Please add 1% GST.
- Triple fares and other categories are also available.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

► Meals

- **38 total:** 14 breakfasts, 12 lunches, 12 dinners

► Transportation

- Transportation to/from Kelowna, Vancouver, or Victoria Airport from the BC Interior, Greater Vancouver, or Greater Victoria Areas
- Flights to/from San Diego
- Transfer from San Diego Airport to hotel
- 1 day of coach transportation in San Diego
- Transfer from hotel to San Diego cruise terminal
- Transfer from cruise terminal to San Diego Airport
- 12 days cruising on *Zuiderdam*
- Current air transport taxes & security fees
- 1 checked bag per person

► Accommodation

- 2 nights of hotel accommodation & taxes
- 12 days & nights on board *Zuiderdam*
- Port charges & cruise taxes
- Luggage handling at hotel & ship

► Key Highlights

- Balboa Park pass for 4 museums

► Gratuities

- Cruise gratuities
- Gratuities for California drivers

► Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

Activity Level 2



Moderate activity: As a traveller you like a variety of activities and walking up to 2 km with breaks such as 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. Choose shore excursions at the cruise ports based on your abilities. Please be aware that on tours with flights and cruises you must handle your own luggage and walk longer distances in airports and cruise terminals. You may need to handle your own luggage at the hotel if luggage service is not available.

You may bring a cane or walking poles if needed. The coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. The tour director and drivers 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.





San Diego

ITINERARY

Friday, February 13

We fly to **San Diego**, arriving in the evening. Our accommodation for two nights is the Embassy Suites Hotel, located downtown, just a block from the harbour.

Accommodation: Embassy Suites Bay-Downtown

Saturday, February 14

Balboa Park is the largest urban park in the USA at 1,100 acres. Many of San Diego's most popular museums are located here. Admission is included for you to explore your choice of up to four museums such as the Reuben Fleet Science Center, Aerospace Historical Center, Museum of Man, Model Railroad Museum, Natural History Museum, Museum of Art, or Automotive Museum. At 5 pm, enjoy a social get-together with complimentary beverages at the Embassy Suites.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Embassy Suites Bay-Downtown

Sunday, February 15

A transfer is provided to the cruise ship terminal and we board the **Zuiderdam** about noon. An embarkation lunch is served at the Lido Market. The afternoon is free time to explore the ship and settle into your stateroom. Enjoy a festive "Farewell to San Diego" deck party as we cast off and cruise through the harbour. Savour a sumptuous dinner in the dining room, followed by a lively stage show in the theatre.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Monday, February 16

Enjoy a relaxing day at sea while we cruise south off the Baja Peninsula. 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: *Zuiderdam*

Tuesday, February 17

Our first port is **Cabo San Lucas**, situated at the southern tip of the 1,300-km long Baja Peninsula. We anchor in the harbour and take a short tender ride ashore. Sightseeing tours can be purchased on the ship, at www.hollandamerica.com in advance, or on the dock with independent operators. Many people want a closer view of Los Arcos, the spectacular sea arch in the cliffs near the harbour.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

ITINERARY continued

Wednesday, February 18

Overnight, the ship heads into the **Sea of Cortez** which separates the Baja Peninsula from the Mexican mainland. Its incredible depth of over 3,000 metres is due to complex geology, linked to plate tectonics. Some areas are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. We dock at Pichilingue, located 18 km from **La Paz**, the largest city on the Baja and capital of the Mexican state of Baja California Sur. Some of its highlights are a beautiful waterfront boardwalk with unique sculptures that symbolize the history and cultural treasures of the region, the Museum of Anthropology & History, and the Cathedral Nuestra Señora de La Paz with its splendid stained-glass windows. Several La Paz tours can be purchased.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Thursday, February 19

Overnight, we sail further up the east coast of the Baja and arrive at **Loreto**. This is another tender port. Loreto was settled in 1697 when Juan María de Salvatierra founded Misión de Nuestra Señora de Loreto Conchó. It ranks as one of Mexico's oldest cities and Main Street was the first paved road in the Californias. Places to visit include the Mission and the museum. Tours outside Loreto can also be purchased.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Friday, February 20

Overnight, the *Zuiderdam* cruises across the Sea of Cortez to the Mexican mainland and arrives at **Guaymas**. It was established in 1769 and played a strategic role in trade and defense during Spanish colonial times. Explore the elegant San Fernando Church, stroll the Malecón, or relax on nearby beaches like Playa Miramar. The city celebrates Carnaval de Guaymas, one of Mexico's oldest and most vibrant carnivals, which finished a few days ago, so decorations may still be in place. With its blend of history, culture, and seaside charm, Guaymas offers a warm and authentic Mexican experience. Tours of the Guaymas area can be purchased.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Saturday, February 21

Overnight, we sail down the coast to **Topolobampo**. It was founded in the 1880s as the site of an ambitious social experiment led by American reformer Albert Owen who envisioned a utopian cooperative colony. Today, Topolobampo is a ferry port and nearby Los Mochis is the start of the famous Chepe train to Copper Canyon. Topolobampo Bay is rich in biodiversity, home to dolphins, sea turtles, mangroves, and a variety of seabirds, making it a haven for eco-tourism. The ship offers a long one-day tour to Copper Canyon. You can also take a tour of the sights of Topolobampo and Los Mochis, and a cruise on Topolobampo Bay.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*



Topolobampo Bay



Puerto Vallarta

ITINERARY continued

Sunday, February 22

The *Zuiderdam* docks in **Mazatlán**. You may want to take a local tour that includes the Immaculate Conception Basilica, Aquarium, El Faro Lighthouse, Shrimp House, Plaza Machado with its beach mansions, and the daring cliff divers at Malecón.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Monday, February 23

The *Zuiderdam* calls at **Puerto Vallarta**. Be sure to be on deck early as the ship maneuvers inside the narrow entrance to this harbour. A bazaar is next to the dock and numerous other boutiques are in the historic downtown area, about 3 km distant. The city became famous and attracted many celebrities after *Night of the Iguana* was filmed here in 1964, starring Marilyn Monroe.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Tuesday, February 24

These next two days are spent leisurely at sea while the *Zuiderdam* retraces her route along the Baja coast. Try one of the specialty restaurants for dinner and enjoy a terrific menu with attentive service.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Wednesday, February 25

Another day at sea to do as you please.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Thursday, February 26

Our last port of call is **Ensenada**. Enjoy the Riviera Cultural Center and excellent bazaar shopping, or take a tour to La Bufadora (an erupting blowhole at high tide) or Guadalupe Valley, Mexico's premier wine region.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Zuiderdam*

Friday, February 27

The *Zuiderdam* arrives back in San Diego and we disembark this morning. Our coach is waiting for the short drive to the airport for our flights home.

Meals included: Breakfast

STAFF TESTIMONIAL

From the lively streets of San Diego to the charming town of Loreto and the stunning vistas of Puerto Vallarta, this cruise was the perfect blend of relaxation and adventure! Terri Lynn from our Kamloops office and I were fortunate to sail aboard the *Koningsdam* with Holland America in November 2023 on a very similar itinerary, enjoying exceptional comfort, fine dining, and the chance to explore incredible ports in Mexico. Each stop had something unique to offer - Mazatlán's bustling market and daring cliff divers, Loreto's picturesque town centre, and La Paz's scenic Malecón and street markets. Onboard, we made the most of our sea days, whether unwinding by the pool or joining engaging activities. This cruise truly had the perfect balance of adventure and leisure.

– Rachel in Victoria



Zuiderdam in San Diego

MS ZUIDERDAM

Holland America's *MS Zuiderdam* (pronounced Zy-der-dam) made her inaugural cruise in 2002. She was the first of four Vista-class ships launched, followed by *Oosterdam* in 2002, *Westerdam* in 2004 and *Noordam* in 2006. Carrying 1,848 passengers, these ships are Holland America's third largest design, but they still have an intimate feel to them. *Zuiderdam's* gross tonnage is 82,000 and she is 300 metres long. Her 11 decks feature a 900-seat live entertainment theatre, seven lounges, casino, shopping arcade, movie lounge, beauty shop, library, games room, Internet centre, spa, gymnasium, and two swimming pools (one with sliding dome cover). *Zuiderdam* has 14 elevators and four of them are glass with panoramic views.

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 six

buffet-style serving stations for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and the 11 pm buffet. The Pinnacle Grill and Canaletto 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 24 hours a day.

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 over 800 ensures top-quality service and entertainment. Every day has a full schedule of optional activities: dance class, bridge, bingo, shuffleboard, table-tennis, karaoke, and board games. The movie theatre presents recent films frequently, there is an entertaining live stage show every evening, and musicians are playing in most lounges.

TOUR NOTES & POLICIES

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 (mid-November 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 *Zuiderdam* 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. If you prefer to dine at the same time with the same people each day, we can request this. The specialty restaurants take reservations on board and you should do this early in the voyage, or you can book online up to 3 months before sailing.

Shore excursions: All your shore excursions should be booked when they become available on Holland America's website www.hollandamerica.com, usually 3 months prior to the cruise. The popular shore excursions fill up early (such as those mentioned in the itinerary), so booking on board may be too late.

TOUR NOTES & POLICIES continued

Included lunches: The above itinerary shows an included lunch on every cruise day. These lunches are on the ship, so if you book a shore excursion, you may miss an included lunch if you are not back on board at lunchtime. There is no compensation for missed lunches.

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 \$1,300 and book your own flight which allows seat selection.

Flight upgrades: Please enquire about current prices for upgrades on the flights to and from San Diego. Business class or premium economy may be available.

Flight delays or cancellations: Flights can be delayed or cancelled at the last minute. 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.

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

Payments: A deposit of \$600 per person is requested at time of booking and balance is due November 5, 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 \$300 discount on the first 12 seats and \$150 on the next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after November 5, 2025.

Cancellation Policy: Up to October 6, 2025, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From October 7 to November 5, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From November 6 to December 5, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. From December 6, 2025 to January 5, 2026, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After January 5, 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.



TOUR NOTES & POLICIES continued

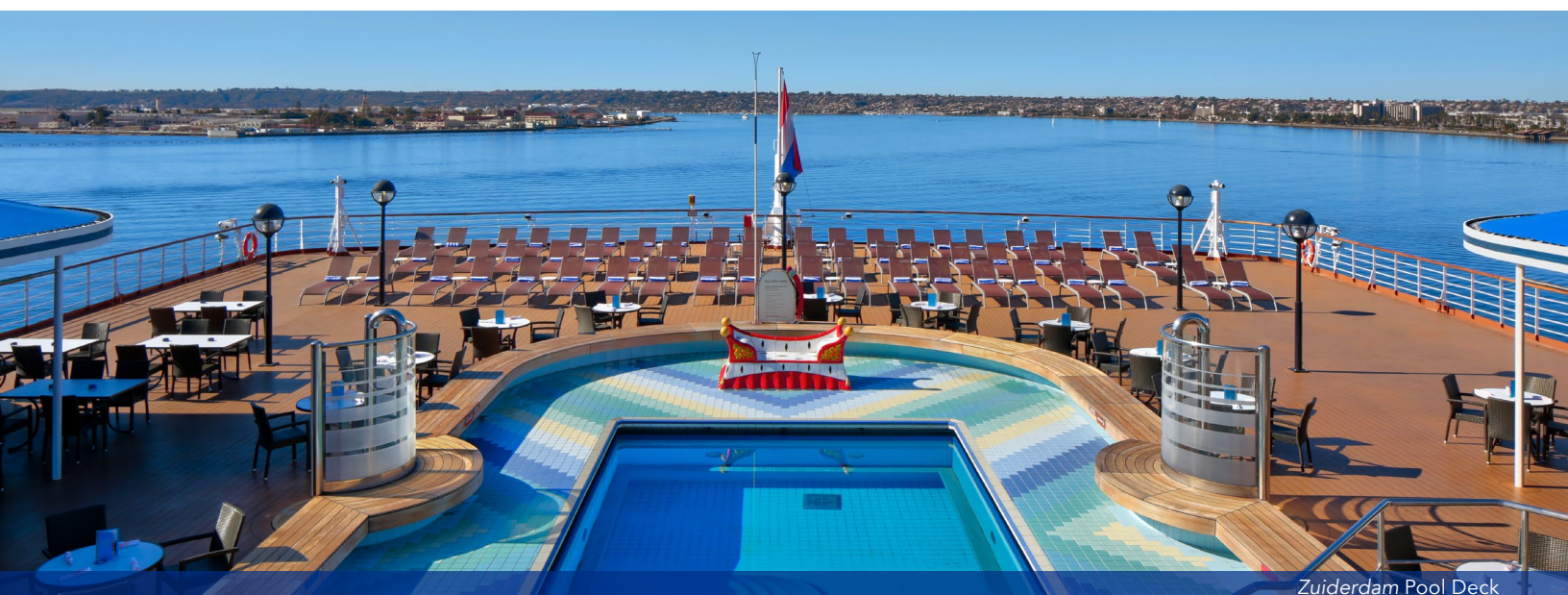
Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than 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 outside Canada without medical insurance as a minimum.

Photo Credits: Holland America Line (Loreto, Puerto Vallarta page 3, *Zuiderdam* in San Diego, Mazatlán,

Zuiderdam Pool Deck), Adobe Stock (Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta page 6), tour director Lisa (San Diego), and tour director Jill (Topolobampo Bay)

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 127 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 November 5, 2025.

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



Zuiderdam Pool Deck

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. _____

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