

CRUISING ONTARIO CANALS

June 2027



Wells Gray Travellers with *Kawartha Voyager*

Cruise the Trent–Severn Waterway on the small ship Kawartha Voyager

Discover one of Canada's hidden gems on a leisurely small-ship cruise along the historic Trent–Severn Waterway. Stretching across southern Ontario, this National Historic Site connects sparkling lakes, winding rivers, and picturesque communities through a remarkable series of locks and lift locks. Aboard the intimate *Kawartha Voyager*, carrying a maximum of just 45 guests, you will cruise at a relaxed pace through beautiful scenery, pass beneath charming bridges, and experience this remarkable engineering achievement from the water. Enjoy attentive service, delicious meals, and the camaraderie that comes with small-ship travel. Before your cruise, explore the historic waterfront city of Kingston, then conclude your adventure with a two-night stay in Toronto. If you have enjoyed our *Canadian Empress* cruises on the St. Lawrence River, you are sure to love the *Kawartha Voyager*.



CRUISE TOUR



ACTIVITY LEVEL

► **Departure from:**

- ❶ **BC Interior:** June 12, 2027 – 9 days
- ❷ **Vancouver Island:** June 12, 2027 – 9 days
- ❸ **Lower Mainland:** June 12, 2027 – 9 days

► **Fares per person**

- ❶ from **\$7,545** double/twin, **\$11,190** single*
- *Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.

► **Early Booking Bonus**

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

► **Earn 144 Experience Points**



Kawartha Voyager

Providing Quality Packaged Travel Since 1972

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Your departure point will be discussed at the time of booking.

- I BC Interior:** We depart on Saturday, June 12 and fly from Kelowna to Toronto. We fly from Toronto to Kelowna on Sunday, June 20, then drive home. Transportation is provided from your pickup location on the day of departure and back when we return.
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- V Vancouver Island:** We depart on Saturday, June 12 and fly from Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox to Toronto. We fly from Toronto to Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox on Sunday, June 20.
- 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:** Transportation to and 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 Airport at the time of booking.
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- L Lower Mainland:** We depart on Saturday, June 12 and fly from Vancouver to Toronto. We fly from Toronto to Vancouver on Sunday, June 20.
- Departure from Vancouver:** Home pickup for clients in the Greater Vancouver Area may be arranged at the time of booking.
- Departure from Langley, Abbotsford, or Chilliwack:** No transportation is provided to and from Vancouver Airport. Please refer to the BC Interior pricing below.

FARES PER PERSON

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
I	BC Interior	\$7,545 double/twin \$11,190 single	
V	Vancouver Island	\$7,695 double/twin \$11,340 single	• Please add 5% GST.
L	Lower Mainland	\$7,585 double/twin \$11,230 single	

WHAT'S INCLUDED

► Meals

- **15 total:** 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners

► Transportation

- Transfers between the Kelowna, Vancouver, or Victoria Airport & the BC Interior, Greater Vancouver, or Greater Victoria Areas
- Flights to Toronto & return
- Current air transport taxes & security fees
- 3 days of coach transportation in Ontario
- 5 days cruising on *Kawartha Voyageur*
- Transfer from hotel to Toronto Airport

► Accommodation

- 3 nights of hotel accommodation & taxes
- 5 nights on board *Kawartha Voyageur*
- Luggage handling at Toronto hotel & ship

► Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director throughout tour & cruise

► Key Highlights

- Locally-guided tour of Kingston
- Old Fort Henry with guided tour
- Entertainment and other services on the ship
- Open bar for beverages on ship
- Theatre show in Toronto (show TBA)
- Little Canada
- Locally-guided tour of Toronto highlights
- CN Tower

Attractions & ports are subject to change.

Please see Tour Policies for more information.

► Guides, Gratuities, Fees & Taxes

- Cruise gratuities
- Trent-Severn Waterway ship transit fees
- Gratuities to guides & drivers in Ontario



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. There can be longer walks in the airports. There is an elevator on the ship which serves the first and second decks, and a stairway goes to the sun deck. Cabins on the ship are very compact (see description on page 5). The coaches and ship cannot carry a scooter or any type of wheelchair. There is no luggage service at the June 12 hotel.

You may bring a cane or walking poles if needed. This tour is not appropriate for people who require the use of a walker. Staying on the coach at stops is not permitted. 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

Saturday, June 12

We fly to Toronto and stay overnight at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel, located inside Terminal 3.

Accommodation: Sheraton Gateway Hotel

Sunday, June 13

We drive to **Kingston** which played a vital role in Canada's birth. It was always a military fort, first as a French stronghold against both British and Iroquois enemies and then as a British fort defending against American invaders. After the Rideau Canal was built in 1832, Kingston was briefly the capital of the Province of Canada. A local guide conducts a drive past landmarks such as Queen's University, City Hall, the Martello Towers, Royal Military College, and infamous Kingston Penitentiary. Afterwards, we take a guided walk through **Old Fort Henry** which has loomed over Kingston since the War of 1812. A much larger fort was constructed between 1832 and 1836 to defend Lake Ontario, the entrance to Rideau Canal, and the harbour. Dinner is served in a unique restaurant inside the stone walls of Old Fort Henry. Afterwards, we board the **Kawartha Voyageur**. The ship stays docked in Kingston overnight.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: *Kawartha Voyageur*

Monday, June 14

During breakfast, the *Kawartha Voyageur* casts off and we head downstream among the **1000 Islands**. Our route follows Millionaires' Row where palatial mansions overlook the St. Lawrence River. The amazing **Boldt Castle** was built in 1900 by George Boldt who owned the Waldorf Astoria in New York. The castle was meant to be a gift for his wife with 120 rooms, six storeys, indoor pool, powerhouse, ballrooms, and gardens. In 1904, Mrs. Boldt suddenly died and work stopped on the castle, never to be completed. We sail around the castle, but do not land because it is in the

US. We dock at **Gananoque** for a waterfront stroll, then return to Kingston via Bateaux Channel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Kawartha Voyageur*

Tuesday, June 15

The ship cruises west through the North Channel, Adolphus Reach, and Long Reach where we enter the **Bay of Quinte**. These historic waters carried the United Empire Loyalists seeking freedom and settlement in Upper Canada circa 1784.

Overnight docking is at Trenton.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Kawartha Voyageur*

Wednesday, June 16

We leave Trenton after breakfast and enter the mouth of the Trent River and the southern end of the 386-km long **Trent-Severn Waterway**. We ascend a series of locks on the lower Trent with a final lift of 15 metres through the double flight lock at Ranney Falls. The captain may dock at one or more of these locks, so we can go for a short walk and watch the lock in action from shore. This brings us to our overnight stop in the delightful town of **Campbellford**.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Kawartha Voyageur*

Thursday, June 17

We embark on another day of beauty and relaxation as we continue up the Trent River through a series of six locks. A stop at **Healey Falls flight lock** with its 17-metre lift, adjacent dam, and cascading water provides a great photo opportunity. Our overnight docking is in the village of Hastings at the head of the Trent River.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Kawartha Voyageur*

Friday, June 18

Our final day takes us through two major waterways. **Rice Lake** is a long shallow lake noted for excellent fishing and glacial till islands. From the west end of Rice Lake, we enter the Otonabee River cruising upstream to **Peterborough** where

we dock about 2 pm and disembark. Our coach is waiting and we drive into **Toronto** for a two-night stay. Toronto has several excellent theatres and we see a show tonight. Theatre schedules are usually announced about six months in advance, and you will be notified about the selected show.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Marriott Eaton Centre

Saturday, June 19

This morning, we explore **Little Canada** which features dioramas of five Canadian cities in miniature. Buildings and monuments are perfect scale models, while trains, buses, trucks, and cars all move around their cities, and the tiny people

and animals have movements too. A sightseeing tour of Toronto with a local guide passes landmarks such as Rogers Centre, Scotiabank Arena, Queen's Park, City Hall, and the Lake Ontario waterfront, and along famous streets including Bay, Yonge, and Bloor. We ride up the **CN Tower** for an impressive view of the city from 553 metres above ground. Our hotel is adjacent to the **Eaton Centre**, one of Toronto's foremost shopping centres with 230 stores.

Accommodation: Marriott Eaton Centre

Sunday, June 20

Transportation is provided to the airport for our flights home.

KAWARTHA VOYAGEUR

Our floating home for five nights is the *Kawartha Voyageur*. The ship was specially built in 1983 by Lloyd and Helen Ackert to cruise the Trent-Severn Waterway, then lengthened in 1995 and 2000 to its present 36.7 metres (121 feet). It is 6.7 metres wide (the beam), so these dimensions allow it to travel through most of the 43 locks on the canal with inches to spare. The Ackert family still owns the ship and the personal touch of a family business is very evident with the attention to details and service.

Kawartha Voyageur carries 45 passengers if all berths are occupied. There are 3 decks. The bottom deck has 23 cabins, four showers shared by all passengers, and an outdoor sitting area at the bow. The second deck has the dining room, lounge, library, and a bathroom. An elevator serves these two decks or there are stairs. The sun deck is reached by stairs from the lounge area and is an open area with lots of chairs and a canopy for shade that lowers when passing under a low bridge. The pilothouse is forward of the sun deck and visiting is allowed unless the captain is steering into a lock.

The cabins are tiny and all identical, measuring 2.9 metres long and 2 metres wide (9.5 feet by 6.5 feet). Each cabin has two single beds (with space underneath for suitcases), a window with a roller blind, and a small desk. There is a clothes rack with hangers and two shelves above each bed. The toilet and sink are separated from the sleeping area by a curtain. Two people sharing a cabin probably need to take turns getting into bed. The cabins are typically used only for sleeping, dressing, and the toilet, and the rest of the time you are in the lounge area or on the sun deck. The tap water in the cabins is not potable, but there is a drinking fountain and water bottle filler along the hall. There are four showers at the stern end of the hall. Each has a locking door with a dressing area and a curtain separating the shower itself. Bring your own hair dryer if needed.

Meals are served promptly at 8 AM, noon, and 6 PM. The menu is on the table and is fixed so there are no choices, but every meal is different. All meals are excellent quality and it is remarkable how the staff can produce so much from the small galley. Breakfast is typically muffins and porridge followed by a hot dish such as pancakes or omelette with toast, plus fruit, juice, coffee or tea. Lunch and dinner are usually a salad, hot dish, and dessert. Menus for every meal are on [the website](#). All food is served from a trolley and the server asks what you want and how much, then returns later to see if you want seconds. Only a few food allergies can be handled on board (see next page). Snacks are served at 10 AM, 3 PM and 10 PM and brought

around to wherever you are sitting in the lounge or sun deck. Wells Gray Tours has arranged an open bar, but the ship's selection is limited to red and white wine, beer, some mixed drinks, or soft drinks.

There are some very low bridges along the canal and sometimes the shelter canopy on the sundeck must be lowered and the pilothouse flattens as well. The crew warns everybody sitting on the sun deck to stay seated and don't stand up at the last minute. Some of the locks are too short to accommodate the ship, so the bow sitting area folds up. Sometimes the ship docks below a lock and you can get off, stretch your legs, take photos, and walk above the lock to reboard. The ship does not travel at night and usually docks by 4 PM, so there is time for a walk before dinner, sometimes led by the host.

TRENT-SEVERN WATERWAY

The Trent-Severn Waterway extends 386 km from Trenton on Lake Ontario to Port Severn on Lake Huron's Georgian Bay. With 43 locks, it provides uninterrupted water travel for small vessels between these two Great Lakes. Beginning with the construction of a small wooden lock at Bobcaygeon in 1833, the canal system was not completed until 1920, by which time its value for long-haul commercial transportation was outmoded. The entire system is a National Historic Site, managed by Parks Canada.

From Lake Ontario at an altitude of 74 metres, vessels ascend 182 metres to Balsam Lake, then descend 80 metres to Georgian Bay at 176 metres. Half the locks are 45 metres long and the rest are 36 metres long, and the standard width is 10 metres, so the *Kawartha Voyageur* just fits. The standard lock lift varies considerably, ranging from 1.5 metres to 8 metres. The Peterborough Lift Lock and the Kirkfield Lift Lock use different technology which can be likened to two counterbalanced bathtubs and one going down pulls the other one up.

The Waterway has about 1,600 km of shoreline and 160 major islands. Dams are visible at most of the locks but altogether there are 125 dams maintained by the Waterway. The Rideau Canal took 7 years to build, the Erie Canal 8 years, the Suez Canal 10 years, and the Panama Canal 30 years, so the Trent-Severn Waterway holds the record at 87 years of construction. In 1976, over 18,000 pleasure craft travelled the canal and in 2025 about 121,000 boats passed through it.

TOUR NOTES

Please book early. Wells Gray Tours has booked all the cabins for this voyage on the *Kawartha Voyageur*. The ship will be entirely for Wells Gray customers, provided there are **at least 30 bookings by December 1, 2026**. The ship is extremely popular, so this is a rare opportunity to have an exclusive cruise. The ship gets many repeat cruise customers who book a year in advance, so Wells Gray is fortunate to have secured this cruise week. This tour can take a maximum of 40 people.

Food Allergies: Most food allergies **cannot** be handled on board *Kawartha Voyageur*. You can request sugar-free syrup or jam, gluten-free bread, and lactose-free milk. This tour may not be suitable if you have other food allergies. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. Please consider bringing your own snacks or food items, so you are not dependent on what the ship or other restaurants are able to serve. You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy.

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 and book your own flight which allows seat selection. As flights cannot be booked until early August, the fare reduction will be available then. Please refer to our [Terms & Conditions](#) for more information on the "No Flight" option.

Flight upgrades: Please enquire about current prices for upgrades on the flights to and from Toronto. Business class may be available.

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

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$800 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due February 11, 2027. 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 (3% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard.

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 February 11, 2027.

Cancellation Policy:

- Up to January 11, 2027, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person.
- From January 12 to February 11, the cancellation charge is \$400 per person.
- From February 12 to March 11, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare.
- From March 12 to April 11, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare.
- After April 11, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Please refer to Wells Gray Tours' [Terms & Conditions](#).

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard until September 8, 2026 and Battleface after that. 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 Canada, but medical costs can vary a lot from one province to another. While your BC Services Card may partly 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 medical, cancellation, interruption, and luggage. Insurance premiums are not refundable whether or not you make a claim.

Photo Credits: Wikimedia (*Kawartha Voyageur*, bottom of page 1) and Roland Neave (all others).

Experience Points: This tour earns 144 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until February 11, 2027.

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

KAMLOOPS	KELOWNA	VERNON	PENTICTON	VICTORIA
(Head Office)	2575 Richter St.	3206 35th St.	159 Wade Ave E	102-736 Broughton St.
250 Lansdowne St.	Kelowna, BC V1Y 2R1	Vernon, BC V1T 6B7	Penticton, BC V2A 8B6	Victoria, BC V8W 1E1
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