WILD WONDERS OF VANCOUVER ISLAND

June 2027

WELLS GRAY TOURS
a world to experience



Eagle Feeding Frenzy

From Soaring Eagles to Spouting Whales

Discover the wild side of Vancouver Island on a fascinating journey filled with remarkable wildlife encounters, beautiful gardens, and spectacular coastal scenery. Get up close with marine life during a visit to the Vancouver Aquarium, stroll through the spring blooms of Butchart Gardens, and enjoy morning tea in the historic mansion. Venture offshore with Orca Spirit Adventures in search of whales, then marvel at the breathtaking views from the Malahat Skywalk. You'll learn the art of cider-making at Merridale Cidery, watch magnificent birds of prey in flight, and visit wildlife rescue centres dedicated to rehabilitating injured animals. One of the tour's most unforgettable experiences awaits aboard the *Tenacious III*, where hundreds of bald eagles dive for fish amid a thrilling feeding frenzy. Whales, porpoises, seals, and sea lions may also make an appearance. From peaceful forest walks and sandy beaches to fascinating marine research and heritage sites, you'll discover just how much there is to explore on beautiful Vancouver Island.

CANADIAN TOUR | GROUP SIZE 23 | ACTIVITY LEVEL 2

- **Departure from:**
  - (I) **BC Interior:** June 13, 2027 - 9 days
  - (V) **Vancouver Island:** June 14, 2027 - 8 days
  - (L) **Lower Mainland:** June 14, 2027 - 8 days
- **Fares per person**
  - (V) from **$5,590** double/twin, **$6,725** single*
  - **Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.*
- **Early Booking Bonus**
  - **$200** discount on first 8 seats; **$100** on next 4.
- **Earn 147 Experience Points**



Coombs Market

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WHAT'S INCLUDED

Meals

I **13 total:** 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 tea, 4 dinners
V L **12 total:** 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 tea, 4 dinners

Transportation

I Coach transportation for 9 days
V L Coach transportation for 8 days
I L 2 Strait of Georgia ferry crossings

Accommodation

I 8 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
V L 7 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Luggage handling at most hotels

Gratuities

- Gratuities for ships' crew & local guides

Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

Key Highlights

I L Vancouver Aquarium
- Butchart Gardens
- Morning tea in the Butchart Mansion
- Wildlife cruise with Orca Spirit
- Malahat Skywalk
- Merridale Cider tour & tasting
- Raptor Centre with Birds of Prey flying demonstration
- North Island Wildlife Rescue Centre
- Englishman River Falls
- Filberg Heritage Lodge & Gardens with Hands On Farm tour
- MARS Wildlife Rescue tour
- Bald Eagle Feeding Frenzy excursion on *Tenacious III*
- Quinsam River Fish Hatchery
- Nymph Falls Nature Park
- Deep Bay Marine Station

Attractions are subject to change. Please see our Terms & Conditions for more information.

FARES PER PERSON

Orca

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
I	**BC Interior**	**$5,830** double/twin **$7,095** single	• Please add 5% GST. • Triples fares also available. • **BC Seniors from BC Interior or Lower Mainland (65 & over):** $36 discount with BC Services Card.
V	**Vancouver Island**	**$5,590** double/twin **$6,725** single	
L	**Lower Mainland**	**$5,725** double/twin **$6,860** single	

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, negotiate a variety of terrain including moderate hills comfortably, and can climb two flights of stairs without assistance. Ramps onto docks can be steep at low tide. You may need to handle your own luggage at some hotels if luggage service is not available.

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

Tour Size 23
This tour is limited to 23 participants due to the capacity of the *Tenacious III*, making it a more intimate travel experience.

ITINERARY

Sunday, June 13

Your departure point will be discussed at the time of booking. BC Interior passengers travel to New Westminster and stay overnight at the Inn at the Quay, built on a pier jutting into the Fraser River. Every room has a view of the river and you can watch all the shipping traffic going by.
Meals included: Lunch (BC Interior)
Accommodation: Inn at the Quay (BC Interior)

Monday, June 14

Lower Mainland passengers are transferred to the **Vancouver Aquarium** to meet the BC Interior passengers. (Some habitats are closed for renovations). We take an afternoon ferry to Swartz Bay and stay two nights downtown at Chateau Victoria. Victoria customers join us at the hotel and everybody has a welcome dinner at Vista 18 atop the hotel.
Meals included: Dinner
Accommodation: Chateau Victoria

Tuesday, June 15

We stroll around **Butchart Gardens**, resplendent with spring blooms. In 1909, Jennie Butchart set about converting her husband's limestone quarry into the Sunken Garden. In 1939, the Butcharts entrusted the gardens to their grandson, Ian Ross, who continued to develop and promote this renowned attraction. A sumptuous **morning tea** is served in the mansion. In the afternoon, we enjoy a boat excursion with **Orca Spirit Adventures** looking for whales, other marine wildlife, and birds off the coast of Victoria.
Meals included: Tea
Accommodation: Chateau Victoria

Wednesday, June 16

Heading up-Island, we stop at an exciting attraction, the **Malahat Skywalk**. Start with a stroll along an elevated walkway through a West Coast forest of arbutus and Douglas firs. Then ascend the spiral tower on gentle ramps to take in the stunning 360-degree view of Saanich Inlet and the Gulf Islands. At **Merridale Cidery**, we learn about the art of cider-making as our guides explain 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. 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. We stay two nights in Parksville.
Meals included: Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Bayside Resort Parksville

Thursday, June 17

We visit the **North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre** at Errington to view eagles, owls, falcons, hawks, ravens, and black bears. Many have been injured and are receiving rehabilitation before being returned to the wild. Nearby is Englishman River Falls which has a lovely forest walk to the bridge overlooking the falls. There is time for shopping and lunch at unique **Coombs Market**, known for its goats grazing on the roof. The afternoon is free time to stroll the broad sandy beach and boardwalk along Parksville Bay.
Meals included: Breakfast
Accommodation: Bayside Resort Parksville

Friday, June 18

We drive to Comox and tour **Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park**, built in 1929 by Bob Filberg, president of Comox Logging & Railway Company. Bob died in 1977 and donated the property and $11 million to maintain it as a park with nine landscaped acres of exquisite gardens. We visit the Hands On Farm at Filberg which presents a collection of Comox Valley animals. In the afternoon, we visit **MARS Wildlife Rescue** which focuses on the recovery, rehabilitation, and release of ill, injured, orphaned, or oiled wildlife and birds. We stay two nights at Painter's Lodge on the shore of Discovery Passage.
Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Accommodation: Painter's Lodge

Saturday, June 19

We board the *Tenacious III* at Campbell River to experience the **Bald Eagle Feeding Frenzy** excursion. Today, there is a powerful tidal current which forces schools of hake to the surface and hundreds of bald eagles are waiting, perched high in shore trees and circling overhead. They spot the hake and dive from the sky, snatching the fish. Seals and sea lions also take advantage, creating a 360-degree feeding frenzy. Afterwards, we cruise slowly in calm waters watching for Orca and humpback whales, porpoises, dolphins, and many seabirds.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation: Painter's Lodge

Sunday, June 20

We visit the **Quinsam River Fish Hatchery** and the Nymph Falls Nature Park on the Puntledge River, where we can enjoy an old-growth forest and look for birdlife. After lunch at the Crown Isle Resort, we visit the **Deep Bay Marine Field Station**, a research facility operated by Vancouver Island University. Our last night is in Nanaimo.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Coast Bastion Hotel

Monday, June 21

Vancouver Island passengers leave the group from the hotel. On our way to Duke Point, we stop at Biggs Park for views of the Nanaimo River estuary. We ride the ferry to Tsawwassen and travel home.



Tenacious III

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of $400 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due April 20, 2027. By paying the deposit, you agree to the **Terms and Conditions, Company Policies**, 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 $200 discount on the first 8 seats and $100 on the next 4 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after April 20, 2027.

Cancellation Policy:

- Up to March 19, 2027, the cancellation charge is $100 per person.
- From March 20 to April 20, the cancellation charge is $200 per person.
- From April 21 to May 13, the cancellation charge is 60% of the tour fare.
- After May 13, there is no refund.

Food Allergies: 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. 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 battleface® Travel Insurance. 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 Services Card 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. Insurance premiums are not refundable whether or not you make a claim.

Photo Credits: Rosalie Burauen for Campbell River Whale Watching (Eagle Feeding Frenzy), Coombs Market, Pexels (Orca), and Jenna Dixon for Campbell River Whale Watching (*Tenacious III*).

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 147 Experience Points or e-points. Redeem up to 147 of your earned e-points from a previous tour until April 20, 2027. Please see loyalty rewards on our website for more information about e-points.

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

For information on itinerary changes, fare changes, flight delays or cancellation, food allergies, travel insurance, and more, please see our Terms, Conditions, and Company Policies.

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