

7 Day Gems of Vancouver Island

7 days

Created on: 28 Mar, 2024



Highlights

- Victoria City Tour
- Butchart Gardens
- Chemainus Murals
- Nanaimo Museum
- Big Tree Tail
- Wildlife & Bear Watching Tour
- Cathedral Grove (MacMillan Provincial Park)
- Whale Watching Tour

Inclusions

- Professional Tour Leader
- 6 nights of accommodation (3-4 star)
- Transportation on deluxe motorcoach
- 10 meals: 6 breakfasts, 4 dinners

Exclusions

- 5% provincial tax on top of tour base rate
- Gratuities to driver (Recommend \$3-\$4 per person per day)
- Gratuities to guide (Recommend \$5-\$7 per person per day)
- Meals not listed
- Attractions not listed
- Credit card payment fees, where applicable
- Airfare ? domestic and international (Unless Specified)
- Travel insurance (Strongly recommended, ask us for a quote!)
- Items of a personal nature

Dates & Prices

START PLACE	END PLACE	PRICE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	DEPOSIT
-------------	-----------	-------	-------------------	---------

Canada/USA
1-866-814-7378

Fri, 06 Sep 2024

Thu, 12 Sep 2024

\$3,620 USD

\$970 USD

\$500 USD

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Victoria, BC

Victoria, located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island is the gateway to Vancouver Island's rugged coastlines, quaint towns, and vast, untouched wilderness. First settled in 1843 and named after Queen Victoria of England, Victoria was once the capital city of British North America and is now the capital city of the province of British Columbia. This old British city has transitioned into a beautiful modern city, young at heart and home to a thriving foodie and art culture. In the evening we meet for a group dinner at a Seafood restaurant. ** Meet your Tour leader in the hotel lobby by 4 PM for meet & greet and for welcome dinner **

Overnight: Victoria, BC

Included Meal(s): Dinner

Day 2: Victoria, BC

This morning we enjoy a sightseeing tour of Victoria and uncover the history of this old British city while showcasing its transition to the modern city it is today. We explore Oak Bay, the harbourfront, Beacon Hill, and Chinatown, the second oldest Chinatown in North America. We conclude our tour with time to enjoy the incomparable beauty of Butchart Gardens. At one time this was the site of a large limestone quarry. As the limestone deposits became exhausted, Jennie Butchart began transitioning her husband Robert Butchart's empty quarry into the spectacular gardens we experience today. Showcasing an extensive and diverse variety of plants and flowers throughout the many areas of the gardens, visitors today are left in awe. We have lunch (on your own) before we head to our next destination. Next, we make our way to Westholme Tea Company, which is the first and only commercial organic tea grower in Canada. We will experience a private tea tasting of both iced and hot teas, taste a selection of local and handcrafted organic goods followed by time to shop and enjoy the outdoor flower garden. We take a short drive north to the town of Chemainus, now known for its thriving arts community, the town was once on the verge of economic collapse. As a way to save the town and rejuvenate it, a series of murals were created to showcase the history of the town which are now featured throughout the town. Our tour leader will take you on a tour of these murals that were created during the recession in 1981 in order to prevent the once-logging town from being a ghost town. It is considered the world's leading community-driven art tourist experience. The Chemainus Festival of Mural Society restored, maintained, and introduced murals that were appropriate. There are 55 murals and 9 sculptures to visit while in this town. This evening is at leisure as we arrive in Nanaimo, a bustling coastal city and haven for outdoor enthusiasts. Indulge in an authentic local delicacy, the Nanaimo Bar; a chocolate and custard-filled sweet treat that is sure to leave you wanting more.

Overnight: Nanaimo

Included Meal(s): Breakfast

Day 3: Victoria to Nanaimo, BC

This morning we will visit the Nanaimo Museum: Discover Nanaimo's fascinating history. The main gallery offers a sense of what life was like for Nanaimo's earliest settlers and the Snuneymuxw First Nation. Next, you will have the chance to walk the harbourfront and explore with some free time. Next, we will depart Nanaimo and make a few stops on our way to Tofino. Morningstar farm was established in 2001 and is home to Little Qualicum Cheeseworks, the farm aims to provide Canadians with Swiss-styled artisan. Our tour leader will take you on a guided tour around the farm where you will visit the gals in the dairy barn, learn about their milking robot, and meet the calves, sheep goats among other farm animals. Once the tour leader has finished the tour, you will have some free time to look around the farm and visit the Farmgate store where you can purchase the products made on the farm. For lunch (on your own), we will stop at the famous Old Country Market. The Old Country Market started as a roadside stand providing fresh produce to travelers heading to the west coast of Vancouver Island. Over the years it has evolved and grown into a landmark with gifts, groceries, great food, and goats? on the roof! After lunch, we will arrive at Tofino and check into our hotel. Tonight, we will enjoy a group dinner.

Overnight: Tofino

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 4: Nanaimo - Tofino, BC

This morning, we will experience a cruise through the calm inlets and pristine waters of Clayoquot Sound in search of Black Bears foraging for food along the stunning shoreline of the rainforest! At low tide, black bears emerge from the rainforest in search of one ? crab. You may get to witness these beautiful animals effortlessly toss large rocks aside as they sniff out their meal. In addition to bears, we often enjoy views of bald eagles, seals, & porpoises throughout our journey. Then, we will visit Roy Henry Vickers Gallery, a renowned Canadian First Nations artist who began his career as a printmaker. People from all over the world travel to witness his creations, from the Limited Edition Prints to his Original Paintings and the building he built himself with close friends and family. After the gallery, you will have some free time to visit the First Nations gift shop and take some photos on the viewing deck, you might even see a whale!

Overnight: Tofino

Included Meal(s): Breakfast

Day 5: Tofino - Nanaimo, BC

TThis morning we will enjoy a stop at Cathedral Grove, located in MacMillan Park is one of the most accessible stands of giant Douglas fir trees on Vancouver Island. Some of these trees are over 800 years old. You will have the opportunity to stroll at leisure through these old-growth fir trees on a network of trails, predominately shaded by their towering nature. We continue to Campbell River where we will check into our hotel and enjoy a group meal before an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Campbell River

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 6: Nanaimo - Victoria, BC

This morning we board a zodiac boat and travel into the Discovery Passage and the surrounding islands on a Whale Watching Tour. With an abundance of wildlife in the area, you are likely to encounter Humpback Whales, Killer Whales, Pacific White-Sided Dolphins, Bears, Steller Sea Lions, and so much more as we learn about the intriguing history of the Discovery Passage. We visit the Museum at Campbell River today. A modern museum recognized as one of the best in Canada, it shows the impressive history of the region with interactive exhibits focused on Aboriginal Culture, Pioneer life, and the logging and fishing industries that have richly impacted the lives of people in Campbell River. Tonight, we will enjoy a Farewell Dinner together.

Overnight: Campbell River

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 7: Depart Victoria, BC

Our incredible journey through Vancouver Island concludes this morning as we bid farewell to the island and our fellow travelers.

Overnight:

Included Meal(s): Breakfast