

2018 Tour to CANADA

Vancouver & Vancouver Island, British Columbia

April 13 – 23, 2018

Dear Traveler,

Join us for this 11-day adventure as we travel to British Columbia, Canada's westernmost province. From the coastal seaport of Vancouver with its many ethnic neighborhoods and vibrant city life, to the rocky shorelines and dramatic scenery on the west coast of Vancouver Island, to "The Garden City" of Victoria, with its Victorian architecture and English-style gardens...with lots of quilt shopping along the way!

There will be time for you to explore on your own and throughout the tour we will be shopping for fabric, buttons, and everything related to needlework. I hope you can join us on this very special tour!

Barbara Spohn
Traveling Together

Your Tour Itinerary:

Friday, April 13, 2018

You will want to arrange your flight to arrive in **VANCOUVER (YVR)** today.

We will be staying at the **METROPOLITAN HOTEL** for 3 nights.

The hotel is located 2 blocks from Robson Street shops, 3 blocks from the theater district and within an easy walking distance of historic Gastown. A Canada Line station a half-block away offers easy access from Vancouver International Airport. A **WELCOME DINNER** this evening will be at the Metropolitan Hotel Restaurant.

If you would like to arrive Vancouver prior to April 13, contact Traveling Together
for accommodations at the Metropolitan Hotel:

\$107 per person, double occupancy and \$189 for a single, including taxes & breakfast.

Sat, Apr 14

This morning we'll board our private bus to visit some of the best **QUILT SHOPS** in the Vancouver area. Our last stop will be **GRANVILLE ISLAND**, Vancouver's hotspot for shopping and entertainment. Center stage is the Public Market, featuring a farmers' market, day vendors, artists offering local Vancouver goods and a food court where delis, restaurants and lunch counters feature a variety of cuisines. Also on the island is another great **QUILT SHOP!** You will have the afternoon and evening free, and tomorrow.

You will be provided with a list of textile shops in close proximity to our hotel, including
Button Button, the only all-button store in Canada.

The list will also inform you of places that are closed on Sunday, so that you can visit those on the day you arrive or sometime this afternoon. At some point during your free time, be sure to wander down to Gastown, Vancouver's oldest neighborhood that grew from a single tavern founded by John 'Gassy Jack' Deighton back in 1867. The district retains its historic charm with Victorian architecture that houses décor boutiques, one-of-a-kind galleries and some of the best culinary fare in Vancouver.

Sun, Apr 15

Today is free to **EXPLORE VANCOUVER**. You may like to take an excursion to the famous Capilano Suspension Bridge or the alpine village of Whistler. The Vancouver Art Gallery is just a short walk from our hotel, along with the Robson Street shops, many of which will be open today.

Mon, Apr 16

This morning we depart Vancouver and board a **FERRY TO THE HARBOR CITY OF NANAIMO ON VANCOUVER ISLAND**.

VANCOUVER ISLAND is located off Canada's Pacific Coast and is known for its mild climate, thriving arts community and amazing scenery!

Once we disembark at Nanaimo we will drive to **QUALICUM BEACH**, located on the northeastern coast of the island. This is the town where *Chesapeake Shores* is filmed, starring Treat Williams and Jessie Metcalfe. Also known for its natural beauty and small-town charm, this makes it the perfect place to enjoy lunch and do a little shopping.

Carly Simon is a frequent traveler with us and lives on Vancouver Island. She has been instrumental in helping us put this tour together, making sure that we visit lots of quilt shops and experience some of the best scenery that Canada's Pacific Coast has to offer! Carly will be joining us for the next two days and is arranging an optional Promise Quilt project. Details will be provided at a later date.

Our next stop will be **CATHEDRAL GROVE**, located in MacMillan Provincial Park and one of the most accessible stands of giant Douglas fir trees on Vancouver Island. Weather permitting, we will have time to stroll through a network of trails under the shadow of towering ancient Douglas-fir trees, some more than 800 years old.

Our final destination today is **UCLUELET**, located on the outer west coast of Vancouver Island and approximately 100 km from the closest city.

Located on a dramatic headland above the crashing waves of the Pacific Ocean, ****BLACK ROCK OCEANFRONT RESORT** will be our home for the next two nights. The resort is surrounded by the Wild Pacific Trail and the rugged rocky coast of West Vancouver Island and is just minutes from Vancouver Island's amazing beaches, forests, and attractions, including Pacific Rim National Park and Barkley Sound. Our **GROUP DINNER** tonight will be at the resort.

Tue, Apr 17

Today we will enjoy **TOFINO** which is a small district on Vancouver Island, off Canada's west coast and just 40 km northwest of Ucluelet. It sprawls on a peninsula within Clayoquot Sound, characterized by wild natural scenery including lakes, inlets, sandy beaches and ancient rainforest. The relaxed town of Tofino sits on the peninsula's tip and the town center is characterized by art galleries, parks and boutiques. The harbor front offers kayaking and boat cruises to see humpback whales, sea lions and the black bears that roam the peninsula's rocky shoreline. Closer to the time of the tour, we will advise you of any options for taking a boat cruise, that will fit into our scheduled time in Tofino.

Wed, Apr 18

This morning we depart for **PORT ALBERNI** with a stop at the local **QUILT SHOP**, before continuing on to **COOMBS** with time for lunch and some shopping. Coombs is renowned for its Old Country Market and 'goats on the roof'. The market is famous for its international foods, imported gifts, in store baked goods, and ice cream. Housed in a Norwegian-style log building with a grass roof, it attracts thousands of people that come to see the pygmy goats munching on the grass and posing for photos.

Our next stops will be a **QUILT SHOP** in **PARKSVILLE** and another specializing in **BATIKS**, before checking in to the **COAST BASTION HOTEL** in **NANAIMO**. You will have the evening free to enjoy one of the many restaurants or bistros, either along the waterfront or in the Old City Quarter. Wherever you decide to eat, be sure to leave room for dessert, as this is home to the famous chocolate-and-custard Nanaimo bars.

Thu, Apr 19

Our first stop this morning will be a local **QUILT SHOP**, before we drive south to **CHEMAINUS**, famous for its outdoor murals. After a drive through this outdoor gallery we'll pass through **DUNCAN**, the city of totems and the smallest city by area in the nation. We will visit one more **QUILT SHOP** before we continue south to Victoria.

Our last **QUILT SHOP STOPS** on the tour will be this afternoon in **VICTORIA**, British Columbia's capital. Located on the southern end of Vancouver Island, Victoria is often called "The Garden City" and its British colonial past is visible in its Victorian architecture and English-style gardens.

We will be staying at the **HOTEL GRAND PACIFIC**, located on the picturesque boat-lined Inner Harbor and next to the landmark BC Legislature and Parliament Buildings. The hotel is just two blocks from Victoria's downtown restaurant and shopping district, and five blocks from Fisherman's Wharf—a working harbor surrounded by an array of casual food counters, unique shops, and water adventures including kayaking and whale watching.

Fri & Sat, Apr 20 & 21

You have two full days to **ENJOY ALL THAT VICTORIA HAS TO OFFER**.

Just a 5 minute walk from our hotel is the Royal British Columbia Museum, one of Canada's greatest cultural treasures. Among the museum's collections, you can take a look past a wall of ice into the life of a woolly mammoth, climb aboard a replica of the ship that Captain George Vancouver took on his expedition up the Pacific coast, see how the fur trade forever changed the lives of the region's first peoples, and revisit the days of the Gold Rush. The museum is also home of the largest IMAX screen in British Columbia, one of only thirty-five IMAX 4K Laser Projections Systems in the World.

You might like to take a tour of Craigdarroch Castle, built by coal baron Robert Dunsmuir during the reign of Queen Victoria that will give you a glimpse of privileged life in the 1890s. You can follow that with reservations at the world renowned Fairmont Empress Hotel, where they have served England's most beloved ritual of afternoon tea to famed royalty, celebrities and dignitaries alike.

Take a horse-drawn carriage ride or stroll along Victoria's boat-lined Inner Harbor and enjoy the many parks scattered throughout the city, including historic Thunderbird, home to many totem poles and other First Nation monuments.

Our **FAREWELL DINNER** will be at the Hotel Grand Pacific on Saturday night.

Sun, Apr 22

We depart Victoria this morning for a visit to **BUTCHART GARDENS**. In 1904 Robert Pim Butchart developed a quarry and built a cement plant at Tod Inlet. Close to the quarry, he and his wife Jennie established the family home complete with sweet peas and rose bushes. As Mr. Butchart exhausted limestone deposits, his enterprising wife Jennie made plans to create something of beauty in the gigantic exhausted pit. From farmland nearby, she had tons of top soil brought in by horse and cart and used it to line the floor of the abandoned quarry. Little by little the quarry blossomed into the spectacular Sunken Garden, the first of many gardens on the 55 acres that are now one of the world's premier floral show gardens.

There will be plenty of time to enjoy the gardens and have lunch, before we board the bus and drive to the Swartz Bay ferry terminal, for **SAILING BACK TO VANCOUVER**. Our hotel tonight will be the **RADISSON HOTEL VANCOUVER AIRPORT**.

Mon, Apr 23

When it comes time to make your air arrangements, you can schedule your flight to depart for home at any time today, using the hotel's airport shuttle service to **VANCOUVER AIRPORT (YVR)**.

Included in your 11-day tour:

- Hotels
- Breakfast each morning
- 3 Dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Luggage handling at hotels when arriving or departing as a group
- Land travel by private motorcoach
- Ferry transportation
- Group activities
- Escorted by a professional tour leader

Tour Price:

\$ 2997 per person, double occupancy
\$ 737 single supplement
(Airfare is not included in the cost of the tour)

BOOK EARLY....SPACE IS LIMITED!

Once you have booked your trip, you will be notified when it is time to make your air arrangements.

If at that time you would like assistance with your air travel, please call Northwood Travel at 800-780-0571 or email them at info@NorthwoodTravel.com Please note: This email address and phone number is for making air arrangements, only.

We require that all travelers departing the U.S. be in possession of a **CURRENT PASSPORT** that does not expire until at least 6 months from the date of your scheduled return to the U.S.

**For those of you sharing accommodation, please note that all double rooms at the Black Rock Resort include one king bed and one sleep sofa.

Our tours are best experienced by walking. Please be sure to read over our Terms and Conditions and then if you have any questions about your ability to join the tour, please give our office a call and we will be happy to discuss this with you, in more detail.

TO REGISTER:

**If Traveling Together is bookmarked in your favorites, please refresh the links for any updates.

Please be sure to print and read the current Tour Terms & Conditions
Print and mail in the completed current Registration Form along with your deposit.

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