



## **Vancouver Island: Victoria, the Broken Group Islands & Salt Spring**

6 days, Victoria to Victoria International Airport

Trip code NCVG

## What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Meeting & Dinner - Meet your CEO and Group, Colombo
- Your OMG Day: Choice of Zodiac Whale Watching or Chocolate Beach Kayaking, Saltspring Island
- Complimentary arrival transfer
- Welcome Dinner
- Tseshaht Cultural Center Visit
- Tseshaht First Nation Welcome and Reforest project activity
- Whaling history presentation
- Guided morning sea kayaking excursion with lunch on Robinson Island
- Lodge trail hiking and hot tub relaxation
- Evening boat tour of the Broken Group
- Little Qualicum Falls walk
- Lunch and tasting at Rusted Rake Brewing
- Guided tour of the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre
- Exploration of local boutiques and galleries
- Island food and drink tour
- Farewell Dinner
- All tips included for activities and meals, except for CEO and portage
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

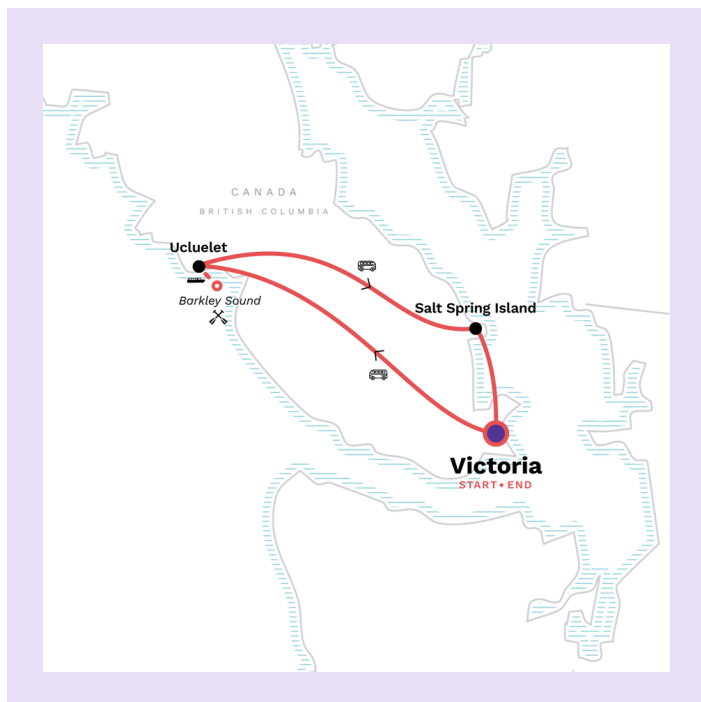
The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing May 2nd, 2025 and onwards

# Itinerary

---



**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Victoria: Welcome to Vancouver Island

Gaze out at the mountains, forests and vast ocean as you touch down with the anticipation of getting out and exploring it firsthand. You can almost taste nature's essence in the air with every breath as you make your way from the airport to Victoria at the island's southern tip. We welcome you to beautiful Vancouver Island and invite you to prepare for an immersive adventure through spectacular landscapes and cultural encounters.

Arrive at any time and transfer to the hotel for check-in. In the evening, meet up with your CEO and fellow travellers at a welcome briefing to prepare for the adventure ahead, followed by a welcome dinner.



### Meals included

Dinner



### Today's Activities

Arrival Transfer

Victoria

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel to start your adventure.

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

## Broken Group Islands: Barkley Sound

Travel north along the Saanich Inlet and past old growth Pacific coastal forests, home to massive Douglas Fir trees. Grab lunch next to Sproat Lake before arriving to the Tseshaht Cultural Center for an immersion into the island's prominent indigenous traditions. Learn about reforestation and conservation initiatives before continuing on to the western coast near the town of Ucluelet. Continue by boat for a short yet beautiful ride through the Broken Group of Islands to our lodge at Barkley Sound.

Travel north from Victoria to the Tseshaht Cultural Center, followed by lunch at Sproat Lake Landing Resort. Next, transfer west to Secret Beach and catch a water taxi into Barkley Sound. Arrive at the off-grid Broken Island Lodge for a relaxing evening and an optional history presentation.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Victoria - Port Alberni

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Private Vehicle

Port Alberni - Ucluelet

1h-1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Boat

Ucluelet - Barkley Sound

45m

Climb aboard and get your float on.

Free Time

Barkley Sound

During your free time at the lodge, you can attend an educational session detailing the property's unique history as one of BC's first coastal whaling stations. This 30-minute presentation features local artifacts and stories, and is open to all guests at the property.

## Broken Group Islands: Kayaks and Coastal Cruises

Spend your morning on a guided sea kayaking excursion exploring the calm waters along the coast. In the afternoon, return to the lodge to relax, take a short forest hike, or unwind in the hot tub. The day concludes with an evening boat tour through the marine park, taking you to unique, remote locations beyond the reach of a kayak paddle. It is the perfect balance of active coastal exploration and lodge relaxation.

Depart for a four-hour guided kayak excursion through Julia Passage, stopping for lunch on Robinson Island. Return to the lodge in the afternoon for free time to use the hiking trail or hot tub before dinner. End the day with a one-hour evening boat tour through the Broken Group Islands.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Broken Islands Evening Boat Tour

Barkley Sound

1h-1h

Enjoy an evening boat tour through the Broken Group Islands, designed to take you deeper into the marine park. This scenic cruise explores unique and remote coastal locations that are inaccessible during a standard day of kayaking. It is the perfect way to cap off the day and see a different side of Barkley Sound.

Kayak day through Julia Passage

Barkley Sound

4h-5h

Embark on a guided kayaking excursion through Julia Passage, exploring the scenic waters near the Broken Group Islands with a local expert. The paddle includes a scenic stop on Robinson Island to relax and enjoy a packed lunch. It is a perfect day of active exploration and coastal relaxation.

## Salt Spring Island: Wildlife & Waterfalls

Set off from the lodge by boat to Secret Beach, then drive to Little Qualicum Falls for a short walk through old-growth forest to view the spectacular waterfalls. Next, head to the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre to see firsthand how the facility cares for rescued animals while also educating the public on wildlife and environmental issues. After lunch, catch a ferry from Crofton to Salt Spring Island and spend the rest of the evening at leisure, relaxing or strolling through town to visit the many boutiques and galleries.

Take a water taxi to Secret Beach, drive to Little Qualicum Falls for a forest walk, and tour the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre. After lunch at Rusted Rake Brewing, board the ferry from Crofton to Salt Spring Island. End the day with check-in and a walk through town.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Barkley Sound - Little Qualicum Falls

1h30m-1h30m

125km

Take a water taxi ride through Barkley Sound from the lodge to Secret Beach near Ucluelet. Upon arrival, board a private vehicle for a drive across the island toward Little Qualicum Falls. The transit combines scenic water travel with a road journey through Vancouver Island's landscape.

North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre

Little Qualicum Falls - North Island

1h30m-2h

Visit the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre, a dedicated facility caring for ill, injured, and orphaned Vancouver Island wildlife. The site features Canada's largest eagle flight enclosure, a Museum of Nature, and an interactive Learning Centre. Guests can walk the grounds to view a native wildlife garden and get close to more than 60 resident, non-releasable animals.

Private Vehicle

North Island - Crofton

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Ferry

Crofton - Salt Spring Island

30m-30m

Board the BC Ferry at Crofton for a 25-minute crossing to Vesuvius Bay on Salt Spring Island. This short transit across the Stuart Channel connects the mainland of Vancouver Island to the Gulf Islands.

Free Time

Salt Spring Island

During your free time, you can explore the charming seaside town of Ganges to browse its famous local artisan boutiques, bookstores, and art galleries. Alternatively, grab a coffee at a local cafe and take a relaxing stroll along the scenic harbor.

Day 5

## Salt Spring Island: Your OMG Day

Start the day on your terms with a choice between an exhilarating whale watching tour in the Southern Gulf Islands or take a scenic kayak paddle to Third Sister Island and the picturesque and shell-ridden Chocolate Beach. Later, join your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) for a local food and drink tour featuring regional cider, wine or beer, and goat cheese. Conclude this unforgettable day by gathering with your group evening for a farewell dinner.

Choose between a Zodiac whale watching tour or a kayak excursion to Chocolate Beach in the morning. In the afternoon, take a two-hour food and drink tour to taste local cider, wine, beer, and goat cheese. End the day with a group farewell dinner.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Today's Activities

#### ACTIVITY

Choose between an exhilarating three-to-four-hour Zodiac cruise to search for humpbacks and transient orcas, or a guided kayak paddle through local intertidal zones to visit the historic white shells of Chocolate Beach. Both morning options immerse you directly in the stunning marine environment of the Southern Gulf Islands.

Salt Spring Tasting Tour

Salt Spring Island

2h-2h

Join your CEO for a two-hour guided tasting tour showcasing the culinary highlights of Salt Spring Island. You will visit distinct local producers to sample regional craft cider, wine, or beer alongside artisanal goat cheese. This afternoon excursion provides a direct taste of the island's renowned agricultural and craft beverage community.

Today your adventure comes to an end, but the memories made during your time on Vancouver Island will live on.

Take the morning transfer to Fulford Harbour for a 35-minute ferry crossing to Swartz Bay, followed by a drive to the Victoria Airport, where the tour ends. For those wishing to continue on to Victoria, an option is available to be dropped off in downtown Victoria.

Please note your departure flight should take-off no earlier than 2:00 PM



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

Departure Transfer

Salt Spring Island - Victoria International Airport

3h-3h

60km

This transit shows the landscape of the southern Gulf Islands and the Salish Sea during the ferry crossing from Fulford Harbour. Upon arrival on the Saanich Peninsula, the route travels south past farms and coastlines toward the final drop-offs at the airport and downtown Victoria.

## What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Meeting & Dinner - Meet your CEO and Group, Colombo
- Your OMG Day: Choice of Zodiac Whale Watching or Chocolate Beach Kayaking, Saltspring Island
- Complimentary arrival transfer

- Welcome Dinner
- Tseshahat Cultural Center Visit
- Tseshahat First Nation Welcome and Reforest project activity
- Whaling history presentation
- Guided morning sea kayaking excursion with lunch on Robinson Island
- Lodge trail hiking and hot tub relaxation
- Evening boat tour of the Broken Group
- Little Qualicum Falls walk
- Lunch and tasting at Rusted Rake Brewing
- Guided tour of the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre
- Exploration of local boutiques and galleries
- Island food and drink tour
- Farewell Dinner
- All tips included for activities and meals, except for CEO and portorage
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Experience a Tseshahat First Nations welcome, plant rainforest trees, and hike to Little Qualicum Falls. Next, take a water taxi to the off-grid Broken Islands Lodge to kayak and boat the passages. Customize your trip with either a Zodiac whale watching tour or a paddle to Chocolate Beach. Conclude by meeting rescued wildlife and sampling artisan treats on Salt Spring Island.

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Experience a Tseshahat First Nations welcome, plant rainforest trees, and hike to Little Qualicum Falls. Next, take a water taxi to the off-grid Broken Islands Lodge to kayak and boat the passages. Customize your trip with either a Zodiac whale watching tour or a paddle to Chocolate Beach. Conclude by meeting rescued wildlife and sampling artisan treats on Salt Spring Island.

## How large will the group be?

Max 16, avg 12

## What meals are included in this trip?

5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners

## Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotel (6 nights)

# What should be on my packing list?

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

## Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

### **Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

## **What activities are optional on this trip?**

- No optional activities

## **How old must I be to join this trip?**

Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

## **Are international flights included in this trip?**

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## **Dossier Disclaimer**

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.