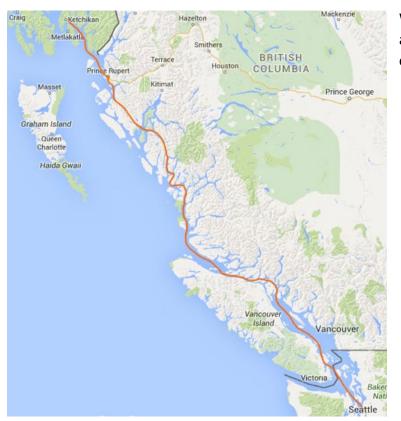
DICOVERY YACHT CANADA'S INSIDE PASSAGE



Join the crew of 'Discovery' and gain an intimate insight into the world of yachting on this epic 700-mile small ship cruise though Canada's Inside Passage. From Ketchikan we cruise to the majestic mountains, fjords and temperate rainforest of central BC's coastal wilderness region, inside of Vancouver Island, and the sun-soaked San Juan Islands to Seattle. Orca whales, Humpback whales, Pacific White-sided dolphins, Wolves, Bald Eagle, Brown bear and Black bear are amongst the wildlife we will seek along the way. Where possible we'll stop for activities that include kayaking, exploration by skiff, a soak in a natural hot spring, hike/cookout on a driftwood littered beach and a visit to a local native village or remote community.



With additional days to allow for tide, weather and wildlife encounters this trip is a gem that is often overlooked.

> DATES – 2019 – SEPTEMBER 13 - 25 EMBARKATION – KETCHIKAN, AK DISEMBARKATION – SEATTLE, WA DURATION – 13 days/12 Nights SHIP - M/V DISCOVERY \$5,795 (Single or Double)

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore scenic waterways accessible only on a small boat cruise
- Skiff and shore excursions to search for wildlife
- Watch for Humpback whales, Orca (Killer Whales), Pacific white-sided dolphins, Porpoise, Sea Lion, Bears, Bald Eagle & more
- Anchor in secluded bays and visit remote communities
- Hike in a temperate rain forest
- Visit a natural Hot Springs
- Kayaking and beach combing
- Trip begins in Ketchikan, AK and ends in Seattle

ITINERARY:

SOUTHBOUND ITINERARY 700 Miles – 13-Days/12-Nights

Day 1 – Ketchikan, AK

Arrive Ketchikan. Transfer on own to your included hotel in Ketchikan.

Day 2- The journey begins!

Welcome aboard Discovery (10am) and depart Ketchikan. The breeze carries with it an air of freedom and the scent of adventure as Discovery clears the harbor.

Day 3 – Cross Dixon Entrance to Chatham Sound

We need to clear customs on arrival in Prince Rupert and there will be time for a quick stroll before dinner onboard Discovery.

Day 4– Prince Rupert (or anchorage at Dundas Island)

We'll make our way toward the coast again today and cruise to Prince Rupert a port city and transport hub at the western terminus of the Trans-Canada Highway.

Day 5 – Channels & passages, tide and current, Hot Springs anyone? Relax and watch the scenery go by as we cruise between forested islands navigating from one channel to another. This afternoon we have the option to anchor by a natural hot springs and go for a soak or continue on to another pristine bay where keen kayakers have an opportunity to paddle and the potential to spot bear on shore.



Day 6 – Princess Royal Island & the Great Bear Rainforest

The scenery over the next few days brings new meaning to the phrase "getting away from it all". Narrow passages, deep fjords and cascading waterfalls form part of the majestic landscape of British Colombia's northern coastal fringe. You'll feel like you're in another world here. Dense rainforest, rich river estuaries and salmon streams provide habitat for Wolves, Brown Bear, Black Bear and the elusive Spirit Bear. Our anchorage tonight lies tucked beneath snowcapped mountains and we'll spend a few hours exploring (by skiff or kayak – your choice) and looking for wildlife in the meadows and rivers at the head of the bay.

Day 7 – Shearwater

Today begins at a leisurely pace. There is time to put kayaks in the water or explore the inlet by skiff before



weighing anchor. Then it's a short cruise to the remote community of Shearwater where we will dock amongst fishing boats and yachts at the small marina. The locals you meet dockside have many interesting stories to share or pop up to the Pub for a 'Canadian' and relax on the patio.

Day 8 – Cross Queen Charlotte Sound

We will round Cape Caution to the east of Vancouver Island's northern point in the morning. It's an 8 hour crossing to one of our favorite anchorages in Fitz Hugh Sound where we'll skiff to shore and walk through coastal forest to a driftwood littered beach. Guests can choose to wander along the sand and rock pools or go on a longer guided hike. It's a great spot for a campfire and cookout this evening as the colors fade and the sun sets over the Pacific Ocean.

Day 9 – Blunden Harbor to Johnstone Strait, Robson Bight (Orca Whales)

We have a scenic cruise today along Johnstone Strait to Blackfish Sound and the Broughton Archipelago. Our route takes us past the famous rubbing beaches where Orca Whales congregate each summer to feed and socialize. Ocean currents support abundant marine life in the surrounding waters here so keep a look out also for Humpback Whales, Pacific White-sided dolphins, Porpoise, Seals and a variety of sea birds.



Day 10 – Desolation Sound to Teakerne Arm Provincial Park

Georgia Strait narrows and a myriad of interconnecting tidal passages and inlets mark the beginning of a more remote region of British Columbia dotted with islands and marine parks. We'll wind our way through the swirling currents (which on the ebb and flood can generate whirlpools and standing waves) of Desolation Sound into Teakerne Arm and drop anchor in a secluded cove beneath a waterfall that spills from a lake high above. It's a beautiful place to kayak and/or skiff ashore and hike.

Day 11 – The Strait of Georgia



Today we'll make tracks south cruising in the Strait of Georgia that separates Vancouver Island from the mainland. This passage is 150 miles long and varies in width from 11.5 to 34.2 miles wide. Our distance travelled today depends somewhat on wind and tide (if it's with or against us) and Captain Swanson will choose a pretty harbor marina at which to overnight allowing guests time to get off the boat and explore.

Day 12 – San Juan Islands - Seattle

Wake up to the smell of freshly brewed coffee and take a stroll on deck before breakfast as Discovery gets underway. We'll cross the Strait of Juan de Fuca and cruise through the San Juan Islands, a beautiful archipelago of over 450 islands, rocky pinnacles and beaches. Keep a look out for Orca Whales that frequent this area. Arrive Seattle this evening, transiting the Hiram Chittenden Locks in to Lake Union.

Day 13 – Disembark Seattle

Spend a few days in the Emerald City before returning home.

Please keep in mind: While cruises follow the general route described weather, tides and wildlife encounters will at times determine the evenings destination. This spontaneity is one of the joys of small ship cruising and offers a wonderful variety for our return guests.

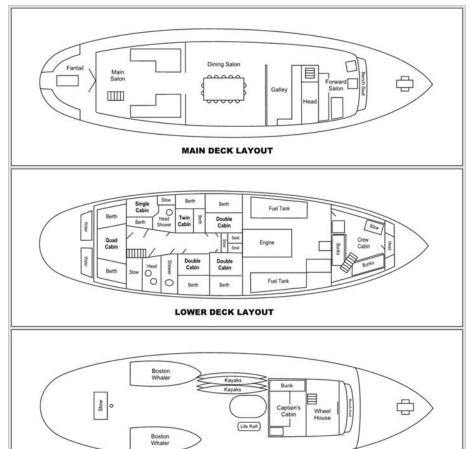














BRIDGE DECK



Email - info@explorcruises.com www.explorcruises.com