



# Wild Earth Travel

*Small Ships, Big Adventures*

[wildearth-travel.com](http://wildearth-travel.com)

[info@wildearth-travel.com](mailto:info@wildearth-travel.com)

## EXPLORING BRITISH COLUMBIA AND THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS

Discover the pristine wilderness, First Nations history, and seaside communities of the Pacific Northwest. Trace the coast from Seattle to British Columbia to explore isolated coves and archipelagos by kayak and Zodiac, and venture ashore to hike through misty forests. Explore among lush Islands, keeping an eye out for marine mammals and bald eagles; visit picturesque coastal towns; and learn about the native cultures that call this region home.



### ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: Seattle/Embark

Arrive in Seattle and transfer to National Geographic Sea Bird to begin your expedition.

#### DAY 2: Exploring the San Juan Islands

Today we'll visit the more remote of the San Juan Islands, an archipelago in northern Washington State perfect for kayaking, exploring by expedition landing craft, and hiking. Search for seals, sea lions, river otters, bald eagles, and other marine mammals.

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## DAY 3: Friday Harbor

Explore Friday Harbor, a picturesque town on San Juan Island. Visit the Whale Museum, with its fascinating collection of artifacts, artwork, and whale skeletons. Stop in at small shops and galleries. Later, we'll search for killer whales on our way to British Columbia.

## DAY 4: Victoria, British Columbia

Clear into Canada in the charming city of Victoria and choose from several tailor-made options to explore based on your interests. Visit private gardens, bike along the waterfront, eat like a local on a culinary walk through Old Town or peruse the collections at local art galleries. In the evening, enjoy a private wine tasting and reception at the Robert Bateman Centre while taking in the incredible collection of paintings.

## DAY 5: Exploring Gulf Islands

Wake this morning among the Gulf Islands, a rich archipelago in the Strait of Georgia, and a yachter's paradise. We'll take our pick of perfect spots to kayak, hike, and search for wildlife.

## DAY 6: Johnstone Strait/Alert Bay

Sail through Johnstone Strait, one of the foremost viewing areas for killer whales in the northern hemisphere. In the afternoon, we'll land in Alert Bay and make our way to the U'Mista Cultural Centre, home to a stunning collection of potlatch masks created by the Kwakwaka'wakw peoples. We'll then walk or ride to the Big House, just a short distance away where the Tsasala Cultural Group puts on a dance and the performers explain the story of the dance movements.

## DAY 7: Desolation Sound

Desolation Sound, on the north end of British Columbia's Sunshine Coast, is a mecca for kayakers and small yachts. It's easy to understand why, with its calm, sheltered waters and outstanding natural beauty. By kayak there are

many isolated bays to poke into and islets that beckon for exploration. On land there are meadows and forest trails for hiking. Tonight, enjoy Captain's Farewell dinner.

## DAY 8: Vancouver

Vancouver is British Columbia's largest city and the major port for all of western Canada. It lies in a stunning setting, surrounded almost completely by water, with snowcapped mountains rising vertically from its very backyard. After breakfast, disembark the ship for connecting flights home.

### Please Note:

All day-by-day breakdowns are a sampling of the places we intend to visit, conditions permitting.

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## YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC VENTURE

**YOUR SHIP:** National Geographic Venture

**VESSEL TYPE:** Expedition Ship

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:** 100

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** 2017

National Geographic Venture is the perfect ship to explore Alaska's Inside Passage and beyond.

### Cabins & Suites

The luxury of comfort on expedition

National Geographic Venture comfortably accommodates 100 guests in 50 outside-facing cabins. Cabins are efficiently designed, with sizes range from the 136-square-foot category 1 to the 185-square-foot category 5 suite. Twenty-two of the 50 cabins will feature small balconies with floor-to-ceiling sliding doors that bring in the spectacular views and ample natural light. Twelve cabins will connect via internal doorway access allowing families to combine their rooms. Plus, all category 5 suite cabins can accommodate a third person on a convertible sofa bed.

Comfort & convenience in every room

Every cabin has two portholes, a large window or balcony, Wi-Fi access, and temperature controls. Bathrooms are modern and stocked with botanically inspired hair products, soap, and shower gel, plus a hairdryer. Every room has outlets and USB outlets for charging your camera gear or electronics, and space for luggage storage.

### Life Aboard

#### Dining

Food served aboard is fresh, local, and delicious, and sourced from suppliers who share our values of sustainable use whenever possible. Meals aboard are almost always served in the dining room, located aft of the lounge deck. When weather conditions allow, lighter fare may be served on the observation deck. There is no assigned seating and our dining room accommodates the entire expedition community in a single seating. During meals your expedition leader, naturalists, and any guest speakers aboard will join you.

#### Public spaces

National Geographic Venture was designed with 50 years of expedition heritage. The ship features a specially-designed, open bow and an observation deck for gathering to watch for wildlife or enjoy an evening cocktail with friends in the open air. An elevator access all decks, and public restrooms are available on every deck.

**Bridge:** You're invited to the ship's bridge to see the calm business of navigation unfold. Ask the watch officer Ventureions about navigation. Or, help yourself to the ever-ready binoculars to scan the horizon for whale spouts. There may occasionally be times when the bridge must be restricted to shipboard personnel only.

**Lounge:** The lounge is the heart of our expedition community, where we hold cocktail hour and Recap each evening. It's also where you'll gather for presentations, photography talks, and guest speaker presentations. Seating design takes advantage of



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the wraparound windows for an optimal view, and boasts multiple high-definition screens for slideshows and videos. Forward lounge doors provide direct access to the bow. There's also a small reference library and board games and cards are also available.

**Bar:** The bar is typically open from 11 a.m. until one hour after lunch begins and from 5 p.m. until closing. A variety of beverages are available for purchase including wine by the glass or bottle, cocktails, specialty drinks, and spirits. There is also a 24-hour self-service beverage station with coffee, tea, soft drinks, beer, water, ice, and snacks. The drinking age aboard the ship is 21.

**Sundeck:** Morning stretch classes are held in the open air of the sundeck, located aft on the observation deck. After stretch class the deck is set with tables and chairs, and lounge chairs.

**Bow:** National Geographic Venture's specially-designed bow observation area accommodates the entire expedition community at once for a shared wildlife viewing experience.

**Mud room:** Located aft on the main deck where you will embark and disembark expedition landing craft, the mud room has lockers that provide convenient gear and boot storage.

**Wellness aboard**

Making daily discoveries and exploring the wild world is naturally uplifting. Add to that a variety of wellness treatments available aboard, as well as outings led by your wellness specialist, and you'll find your expedition relaxing as well as revitalizing. Massages, body treatments, natural facial treatments, and hand and foot treatments are all available in the LEXspa. You will have the opportunity to sign up for a treatment once on board.

**Fitness Center:** Conveniently located on the lounge deck, the fitness center is outfitted with two treadmills, exercise bikes, elliptical machines, exercise bands, and sets of small hand

weights to use as well.

**The global gallery:** a window on regional talent

Discover the talent of local artisans in the places National Geographic Venture ventures in the ship's global market. The global market is a collection of items made by local residents in the places we explore. It is conveniently located on the ship's lounge deck. You may find silver jewelry crafted in Alaska, woven baskets from Panama, paintings and books by your naturalist staff, plus expedition clothing and other essentials. Every item purchased in the global market contributes to the Lindblad Artisan Fund, which supports artisans in communities around the world to develop their potential more effectively and successfully. Five percent of all National Geographic Venture's global market sales will be earmarked for this fund, and the Lindblad-National Geographic Fund will match dollar for dollar what is raised through these earmarks.

\_Tools for Exploration\_

**Expedition Landing Craft**

Key to our operation is our fleet of expedition landing craft, which we use to land in places that would otherwise be inaccessible. With 8 of these boats and two loading stations used every time we disembark, we're able to transfer guests off the ship quickly, so you can be out on adventures, not idly waiting. The expedition landing craft we use are 19 feet long, powered by four-stroke outboard engines, and are capable of comfortably carrying 10-12 people. They are widely recognized as the safest and most versatile small boats afloat.

**Remotely Operated Vehicle**

Capable of reaching 1,000 feet, far beyond the range of any Scuba diver, the ROV allows you to literally view parts of the undersea that are as unexplored as the moon. Chances are you, like many of our guests, will be struck by how surprisingly

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colorful undersea life is in these unlikely places. And this glimpse may fundamentally change how you view the ocean.

## Kayaks

National Geographic Venture is equipped with 24 two-person kayaks--a fleet large enough to ensure everyone who wants to can paddle at every opportunity.

Consequently, prior kayaking experience isn't necessary--many of our guests have their first kayaking experience in extraordinary locations. Our custom-designed floating platform lets us deploy kayaks from the ship, or any location we want--including far from shore. Kayakers are usually free to explore where they want within boundaries set by the undersea specialist and officer of the watch.

## Underwater camera

Our undersea specialist will dive often during your expedition, even in Alaska, with cold-water gear, to shoot high-definition, Cousteau-like footage of the deep. Colorful nudibranchs, swimming, plant-like crinoids, and mysterious fish with antifreeze blood that thrive in the frigid sea will give you an entirely new appreciation of the marine environment.

## Video microscope

Naturalists will use the video microscope to help explain all elements of the environment, including tiny organisms that are the building block of the marine ecosystem. Spellbinding live views of krill at 80x magnification fills the high-definition screens in the lounge with vivid detail, and fills every onlooker with a sense of wonder at the importance of otherwise unobservable creatures.

## Hydrophone

This underwater microphone is deployed to listen to the vocalizations of marine mammals. Real time transmissions of their eerie, haunting sounds can be broadcast through the ship

or recorded for later playback. Few experiences in nature are as captivating as watching humpback whales feed close to the ship as their vocalizations play through the ship's PA system.

## Electronic charts

An electronic chart showing the ship's location, course, and speed is almost always on display in the lounge.

## Open bridge

You'll find our captains are engaged, knowledgeable members of your expedition who are eager to share their passion with you. Venture's open bridge features comfortable spaces to sit, enjoy the view, drink your morning coffee, or simply chat with the officers.

## Snorkeling gear & wetsuits

On warm weather itineraries where there will be snorkeling, you'll select a mask, snorkel, fins, and wetsuit that remain yours for the duration of the expedition. There's no need to pack and tote your own gear, although guests who prefer to are welcome to bring their own.



their own.



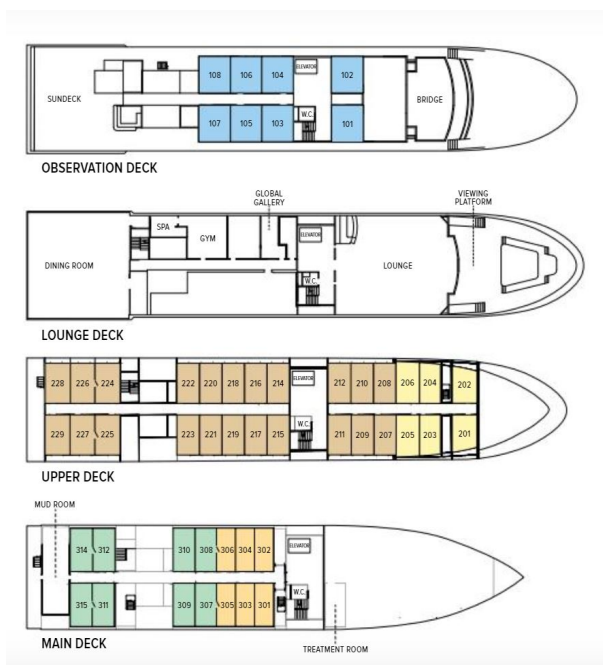
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP



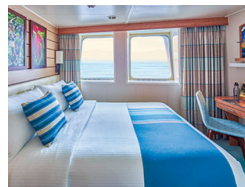
Category 1



Category 2



Category 3



Category 4



Category 5 Suite





## PRICING

### 27-Sep-2025 to 04-Oct-2025

Category 1	8607 AUD pp
Category 2	9990 AUD pp
Category 3	11061 AUD pp
Category 4	12294 AUD pp
Category 5 Suite	13697 AUD pp

### 04-Oct-2025 to 11-Oct-2025

Category 1	8424 AUD pp
Category 2	9799 AUD pp
Category 3	10839 AUD pp
Category 4	12051 AUD pp
Category 5 Suite	13414 AUD pp

### 11-Oct-2025 to 18-Oct-2025

Category 1	8424 AUD pp
Category 2	9799 AUD pp
Category 3	10839 AUD pp
Category 4	12051 AUD pp
Category 5 Suite	13414 AUD pp



## SPECIAL OFFERS

### **\*\*SUITE EXCLUSIVES\*\***

Spacious living areas and incredible views immerse you in the beauty of your marine surroundings. Our new Suite Exclusives package helps make your voyage all the more memorable.

### **\*\*10% OFF BACK-TO-BACK VOYAGES\*\***

Save 10% on consecutive departures, applicable on voyage fares only and not valid on extensions or airfare. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

### **\*\*SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP\*\***

Save 5% when traveling as a group of eight or more people. Valid on voyage fares only and not applicable on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

### **\*\*CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES\*\***

Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US\$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking.

### **\*\*BRINGING THE KIDS\*\***

We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So take \$715 off for each child under the age of 18.

### **\*\*COMBINING OFFERS\*\***

Combine now and save!

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.