



2019 *The Leaflet* Newsletter + Trip Catalogue

EXPEDITION CRUISES BY BOUTIQUE SHIP

introducing

CASCADIA



+ NEW TRIPS FOR 2019!

ALASKA | GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST | GULF ISLANDS | HAIDA GWAII | DESOLATION SOUND

Welcome aboard. Join us to explore the thousands of islands that make up the Inside Passage and Haida Gwaii.



Kevin Smith aboard Maple Leaf. Photo by Grace van Helvoirt.

Dear friends,

People used to look at me like an alien when I said I had a very small boat that took people to see fjords and bears on British Columbia's central coast. Or the islands of Gwaii Haanas.

Few had heard of these areas. Or could fathom why you'd want to go. But we, and a handful of others who live here, believed in the power of these places to transform people's spirits.

So we slogged away – maintaining our vessels; convincing decision makers to protect places for intact wilderness, and operating our trips.

Now, decades later, people from around the world have shown that our faith in these spectacular parts of our home was not misplaced. The Great Bear Rainforest is about to be the subject of an IMAX. Gwaii Haanas is starting to achieve note outside of Canada.

I'm proud of our team and our colleagues who kept the faith and built the ecotourism opportunities here. I'm proud that professional guides and mariners have a career opportunity creating such magical experiences. But these opportunities don't end with the Great Bear and Haida Gwaii.

There are more little-known and spectacular places on

this rich coast to explore. We believe in them, too.

And that's part of what drives us as a company -- to explore around the next corner, and to help people experience the richness of these hidden gems in 'worlds beyond': winding through the mountains to the Kitlope Valley and its ancient lineage of stories; along the continental shelf to Brooks Peninsula, its glacial refugium and seabirds; along the wild beaches of the Great Bear's outer coast in summer.

We've added these and other exploratory trips to our 2019 schedule. You can find them on page 5. If you, too, would like to push past the known places, and explore new, as-yet-unsung wonders with us, we invite you to join us as participants in history, like those first guests Maple Leaf took into the Great Bear Rainforest almost thirty years ago.

PS - You may have noticed I mentioned three ships. We are pleased to welcome our catamaran Cascadia to our trips in 2019. You can read about her in this newsletter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kevin Smith".

Kevin Smith
President and CEO



DESTINATIONS



THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

MONTH	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT
ALASKA			⊘	⊘	⊘		
GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST		⊘	⊘	⊘	⊘	⊘	⊘
HAIDA GWAI		⊘	⊘	⊘			
GULF ISLANDS	⊘						⊘
BROUGHTON ARCHIPELAGO				⊘	⊘		⊘
VANCOUVER ISLAND & DESOLATION SOUND	⊘	⊘					⊘

Why travelling by water leads you to the best of the Inside Passage

The coastline of British Columbia and Alaska undulates into bays, twists into island archipelagos, and stretches far down fjords that slice through mountain ranges. This is wild geography and there are few roads here. As a result, wildlife and nature thrive. The few coastal communities have a deep

connection to the ocean. To experience it at all, and to reach the richest areas, you must travel by water, as people have done here for millennia. On our small ships, you'll reach special areas closed to big ships, and head down passages and make landings there that big ship passengers can only dream of.

SPECIAL OFFERS



Trips Booked Before Dec 31, 2018 & Feb 15, 2019

To kick off trips in the beautiful spring months, we're offering a little extra.

Book select trips on either Maple Leaf or Swell before December 31, 2018, and you'll receive a free two-way local flight from either Vancouver airport or Victoria airport to the start of your trip and back. Book before February 15, 2019 and receive a one-way local flight.

If you prefer, on the Gulf Islands / Salish Sea trips you can opt for a night in a suite at a nearby hotel in Sidney, BC, before your trip.

Value: Up to approx \$250 per person.

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Apr 15-19

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Apr 16-20

Salish Sea with Canadian Geographic

Apr 21-25

Desolation Sound

May 5-9

Desolation Sound

May 6-10

Desolation Sound

May 11-15

Note: If you are already booked on these trips, we will contact you this winter about your flights.

Full Ship Charters for Family and Friends Groups

Charter an entire trip for yourself and your group of family/friends and we can customize the itinerary to your groups' needs.

SV Maple Leaf: Maximum 8 guests*

MV Swell: Maximum 12 guests.

MV Cascadia: Maximum 24 guests.

You may bring up to the maximum number of guests per sailing on your full ship charter, but you don't have to bring the maximum.

* It may be possible to bring one or two additional guests on the Maple Leaf for an additional fee. Contact us to discuss your booking.

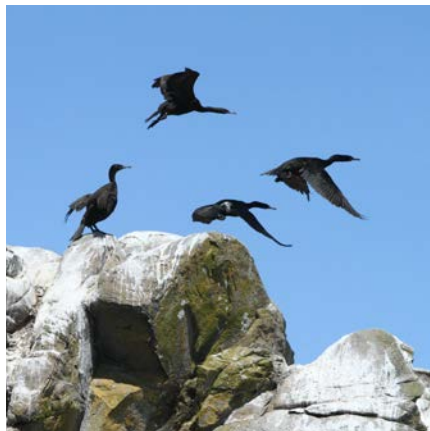
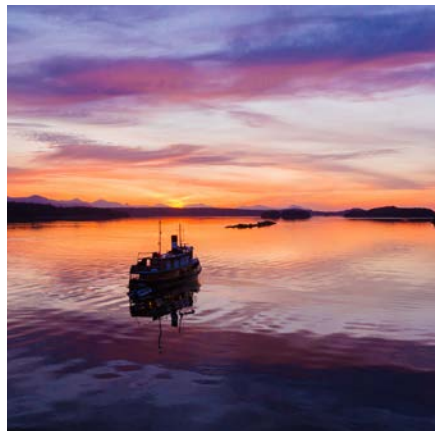
Schedule: People start booking each year's trips early, so it's best to contact us well in advance to arrange a full ship charter.

Back-to-Back Trips

Some trips make great back-to-back voyages. Examples include the Vancouver Island / Desolation Sound trips + Vancouver Island to Great Bear trips in spring. On these trips we'll pay for a night in a local hotel in between your two trips

Favorable US Dollar

When you convert the price of our trips to USD, it works out to about 25% less. (Even our Alaska trips, which are priced in Canadian dollars.) A great time to travel for Americans!



UNIQUE JOURNEYS



Family Friendly Trips

Discover the Broughton Archipelago. This itinerary is designed especially with your family in mind. Ages 5 and up.

On Maple Leaf

Whales & Totems, Aug 2-7. See full itinerary under Broughton Archipelago.

Culinary Adventures

We take pride in our west-coast cuisine and libations. In addition to tasting, these 'deep' trips cover the social history and landscapes that create the people and the food we enjoy.

On Swell

Craft Beer Culinary Cruise in Howe Sound, Apr 27-May 5.

Craft Beer Culinary Cruise, Oct 29-Nov 2.

On Cascadia *New!*

Wine Islands, Oct 28-Nov 1.

See descriptions under Gulf Islands & Salish Sea, pg 5.



Canadian Geographic Expeditons

These special-edition trips with Canadian Geographic and the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, bring you a VIP resource person and special extras not available on other trips.

On Maple Leaf and Swell

Salish Sea with Canadian Geographic, Apr 21-25. See description under Gulf Islands, pg 5.

Cascadia

Haida Gwaii with Canadian Geographic, Jun 8-16. See description under Haida Gwaii, pg 7.



EXPLORATORY TRIPS

Wild Side of Vancouver Island *New!*

A wild journey on Vancouver Island's northwest coast. See trip details on page 7.

On Cascadia

Jul 14-20

Jul 21-27

Great Bear Rainforest North

A new itinerary in 2019. Explore further north in the largest intact temperate rainforest. See trip details on page 6.

New!

On Cascadia

Aug 7-14

Aug 15-22

On Swell

Jun 11-18

Great Bear Rainforest & Kitlope

A true odyssey deep into the Coast Mountains and the Huchsuwachsdu Nuyen Jees, via Gardner Canal. Rich in cultural stories and spectacular scenery. See trip details on page 6.

On Maple Leaf

May 28-Jun 3

On Swell

Jun 4-10

On Cascadia

Aug 24-30.



Great Bear Rainforest

Explore the last stand of ancient North American rainforest: fjords, islands, waterfalls and great river estuaries. There are no roads here, so bears, whales and birds thrive. We offer several itineraries:

Vancouver Island to Great Bear Rainforest

This epic adventure up the BC coast moves from the natural but populated south coast, through the outer islands near Cape Caution and enters wilder and wilder landscapes as it proceeds north, finishing with some great fjords. Along the way, spring wildlife from seabirds to marine mammals enliven our visits to incredible beaches, river estuaries, island groups, rainforests and fjords.

On Maple Leaf

May 11-19, \$3975

Depart/Return: Campbell River, BC, Bella Bella, BC



Great Bear Rainforest in Spring

Cruise the spectacular Great Bear Rainforest as spring flourishes. Travel past waterfalls that crash down the fjords' flanks, and walk into the rainforest, enlivened by the green leaves of new growth and pink salmonberry flowers. Wildflowers bloom in green sedge meadows frequented by grizzly bears. This is one of the peak bear viewing seasons. View marine mammals, visit coastal communities. Likely, a dip in a hot spring will be featured.

On Maple Leaf

May 20-27, \$4750

On Swell

May 27-Jun 3
\$5667 / \$6293 / \$6976

Depart/Return: Bella Bella, BC, Kitimat, BC



Great Bear Rainforest & Kitlope

The rainforest in spring, including several days cruising the Kitlope area. This is a place of superlatives: longest, largest, deepest, tallest. Sail far into the snow-capped Coast Mountains, past goats and waterfalls. Soak in hot springs, walk the rainforest, view marine mammals. Explore the grand Kitlope, a place of Haisla First Nations cultural history and an estuary frequented by bears.

On Maple Leaf

May 28-Jun 3, \$4300

On Swell

Jun 4-10, \$5443 / \$5979 / \$6565

On Cascadia

Aug 24-30, \$6020 / \$7091 / \$8086

Depart & Return: Kitimat, BC

Great Bear Rainforest North

Similar to our spring trip, but includes areas further north. A great time to spot grizzly bears, whales, and seabirds.

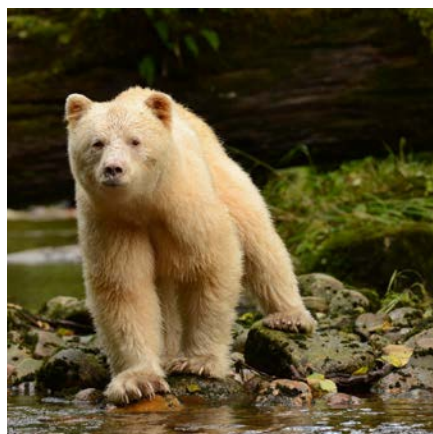
On Swell

Jun 11-18, \$5667 / \$6293 / \$6976

On Cascadia

Aug 7-14 Prince Rupert to Prince Rupert

Aug 15-22 Prince Rupert to Kitimat
\$7040 / \$8290 / \$9450



Whales & Wild Isles, Great Bear Rainforest

One of our most epic trips. Explore the wild outer reaches of the coast, view summer's whales and seabirds, and walk the rainforest. Travelling the entire stretch of the Great Bear, this summer-time supervoyage takes you to wild and seldom visited beaches. A trip for people who love to explore, it focusses more on whales (humpback, orca and possibly fin) and less on bears, due to the season.

On Maple Leaf

Jul 20-28, Kitimat to Port McNeill
Aug 20-28, Port McNeill to Bella Bella
\$5850

On Cascadia

Jul 4-12, Prince Rupert to Port Hardy
Jul 28-Aug 5, Port Hardy to Prince Rupert
\$8060 / \$9488 / \$10814

Great Bear Rainforest Autumn

In autumn, salmon flood the rivers, providing peak wildlife viewing of grizzlies and the white spirit bear. To witness this event is one of nature's great experiences.

On Maple Leaf

Aug 30-Sep 7, Sep 8-16, Sep 17-25,
Sep 26-Oct 4, \$6650
Depart & Return: Bella Bella, BC

On Swell

Sept 5-13 Prince Rupert to Kitimat,
Sept 14-22 Kitimat to Bella Bella,
Sept 23-Oct 1 Bella Bella to Kitimat,
Oct 3-11 Kitimat to Bella Bella
\$7980 / \$8720 / \$9510

On Cascadia

Aug 31-Sep 7, Sep 8-15, Sep 16-23,
Sept 25-Oct 2, Oct 3-10, Oct 11-18
\$8825 / \$10253 / \$11681
Depart/Return: Kitimat, BC

Vancouver Island & Broughton Archipelago

From south to north along Vancouver Island, there is so much stunning variation. On this Vancouver Island tour experience warm, dry Garry oak meadows, arbutus-lined shorelines, and Douglas fir forests in the southern Gulf Islands. Move north and find hemlock, cedar, and Sitka spruce rainforests throughout steep-sloped islands of the Broughton Archipelago. We offer several itineraries:

Wild Side of Vancouver Island

This is the wildest place we visit. Explore Vancouver Island's rugged and beautiful northwest coast. Brooks Peninsula (a glacial refugium), Solander Island (home to puffins), Kyuquot Sound (including sea otters and the village of Kyuquot), lush inlets and sandy beaches. Weather permitting, we'll cruise the nearby continental shelf where we may see albatrosses and cetaceans.
Contact us about our Wild Side packages.

On Cascadia

Jul 14-20, Jul 21-27
\$6020 / \$7091 / \$8086

Depart & Return: Port Hardy, BC

Whales & Vancouver Island Inside Passage

An amazing journey through the wild island archipelagos on Vancouver Island's east coast, for an incredible value price. Highlights of Gulf Is National Park, Desolation Sound, Discovery Islands, and the Broughton Archipelago, including wildflowers, beaches, waterfalls, seabirds, marine mammals, rainforest, and exploring.

On Swell

May 17-24 Campbell River to Port McNeill \$3815 / \$4406 / \$5259,
Oct 20-28 Port McNeill to Sidney
\$5254 / \$5821 / \$6516

On Cascadia

Oct 21-27 Port McNeill to Nanaimo
\$4490 / \$5408 / \$6173

Whales & Totems of the Broughton Archipelago, Summer or Autumn

In summer and fall, abundant fish attract marine mammals to northern Vancouver Island's Broughton Archipelago. Seals, sea lions, dolphins, and pods of orca (killer whales) navigate the channels. Humpback whales gorge on fish and krill. This is an astonishingly rich place to spend time with these intelligent, social mammals. It is also the land of the Kwakwaka'wakw people, home to the U'Mista Cultural Centre that we may visit with a Kwakwaka'wakw guide.

On Maple Leaf

Aug 2-7 (family friendly), Aug 8-13,
Aug 14-19, Oct 8-13, \$3690

On Swell

Oct 14-19, \$4655 / \$5115 / \$5618

Depart & Return: Port McNeill, BC



Haida Gwaii

These hundreds of wildlife-rich islands, on the continental shelf off BC, are known as Canada's Galapagos Islands. They also may be the site of the oldest human habitation in Canada. On this trip, you'll explore the ancient rainforest and the ocean that supports whales and seabirds including puffins, murrelets and shearwaters. You'll explore the Haida culture, and visit remote Haida village sites with monumental poles and houses, including UNESCO World Heritage Site SGang Gwaay. You'll also visit modern Masset and Skidegate, and have the chance to speak with Haida guides. The best way to experience the entirety of Haida Gwaii.

On Maple Leaf

Jun 6-14, Jun 14-22, Jun 23-Jul 1, Jul 1-9, Jul 9-17 \$6340

On Cascadia

May 17-24, May 24-31, Jun 1-8, Jun 16-23, Jun 23-30
\$8825 / \$10253 / \$11681

Depart/Return: Masset, BC, Sandspit, BC

Haida Gwaii with Canadian Geographic

On Cascadia

Jun 8-16, \$10100 / \$11732 / \$13364

Depart/Return: Vancouver, BC



Gulf Islands & Salish Sea

Celebrate spring's return or fall's golden days by cruising among these sheltered islands. Visit the wild beauty and the "hidden" islands in this National Park - places like Tumbo Is., Cabbage Is., and D'Arcy Is. Seabirds, sailing, and marine mammals are other highlights.

On Maple Leaf

Apr 16-20, \$1990; Oct 22-27, \$2375

On Swell

Apr 15-19, \$2937 / \$3275 / \$3762

Salish Sea with Canadian Geographic
Apr 21-25

On Maple Leaf, \$2440

On Swell, \$3337 / \$3675 / \$4162

Depart & Return: Sidney, BC

Desolation Sound & Discovery Islands

Cruise scenic channels and inlets ribboned with waterfalls, as spring returns to one of the world's most beautiful archipelagos. Explore the beaches, forest trails and meadows beneath the coast mountains' stunning snowfields. View marine mammals and migrating birds.

On Maple Leaf

May 5-9, \$1990

On Swell

May 6-10, May 11-15
\$2937 / \$3275 / \$3762

Depart & Return: Campbell River, BC



Craft Beer Culinary Cruise

This tasting trip is a culinary odyssey through the social history of beer in BC. (which is, in essence, the social history of post-contact settlement), while cruising the Gulf Islands. Led by a local brewing expert, the trip is packed with flavour, food pairing, historical anecdotes, and exclusive brewery tours with a who's who not available to the general public. Also includes Maple Leaf Adventurers' trademark wildlife viewing, nature walks, and optional kayaking.

On Swell

Craft Beer Culinary Cruise in Howe Sound

Apr 27-May 5, \$4374 / \$5049 / \$6024

Depart/Return: West Vancouver, BC, Campbell River, BC

Craft Beer Culinary Cruise

Oct 29-Nov 2, \$3025 / \$3373 / \$3875

Depart & Return: Sidney, BC

Wines & Islands

Cruise the Salish Sea's beautiful islands during the harvest month. On this wine-tasting and culinary cruise, you'll explore the breadth of British Columbia's wine.

On Cascadia

Wines & Islands

Oct 28-Nov 1, \$3980 / \$4694 / \$5357

Depart/Return: Nanaimo, Sidney, BC



2019 TRIP CATALOGUE

Alaska

This is the Alaska trip for those who want to experience the grandeur by being a part of it, not steaming through it. You'll explore this wilderness of fjords, islands, and tidewater glaciers. Spend time with humpback whales, sea otters, sea lions, and puffins. View Admiralty Island's brown bears with our special access permit for Pack Creek. We also visit historic towns such as Sitka, Petersburg, Ketchikan and the hamlet of Baranof. From outer coast to inside passage, this is the ultimate Alaska expedition.

Alaska Adventure

Our classic 9-night voyage: Frederick Sound (marine mammals incl whales, whale researchers), Admiralty Is. (brown bears), Endicott or Tracy Arm (calving glaciers), plus Baranof Island.

On Swell

Jun 23-Jul 2, Jul 1-10, Jul 11-20
\$9774 / \$10684 / \$11131

Depart/Return: Petersburg, AK,
Sitka, AK (or Ketchikan, AK)

Alaska Supervoyage

This supervoyage is a longer, sweeping exploration of southeast Alaska. Fredrick Sound, Endicott Arm, Warm Springs Bay, and Pack Creek to see humpback whales, a tidal glacier, and brown bears. Travel south into the Etolin Wilderness Area, Myers Chuck, and Ketchikan.

On Swell

July 22-Aug 1, Aug 2-12, Aug 13-23,
Aug 23-Sep 2
\$10871 / \$11882 / \$12379

Depart/Return: Ketchikan, AK,
Sitka, AK



CREW NEWS



Grace and John Gladstone:

Mate Grace and Deckhand John have recently tied the knot!



Briony Penn:

Naturalist Briony recently won the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize for her book, *The Real Thing: The Natural History of Ian McTaggart Cowan*.



Tavish Campbell:

Captain Tavish's efforts for conservation have not gone un-noticed. His video exposing a fish farm virus went viral and the result has initiated change from the Ministry of Environment.

OUR SHIPS

CASCADIA

Our newest member of the fleet, Cascadia, is a steel catamaran. Cascadia accommodates 24 guests, with full ensuites in each private cabin.

Length overall: 134 feet | Salon, cafe and bar, aft deck dining and lounge, wheelhouse, top deck seating area, hot tub.



MAPLE LEAF

Our beautiful, classic flagship. Maple Leaf accommodates up to 8 guests, with three shared washrooms.

Length overall: 92 feet | Dining lounge, wheelhouse lounge, deck space with seating.



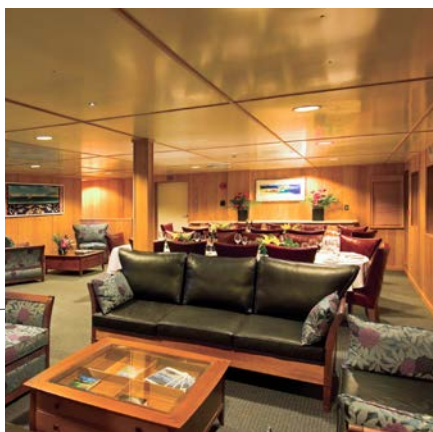
SWELL

Our classic, converted tugboat. Swell accommodates 12 guests, with full ensuites in each private cabin.

Length overall: 88 feet | Salon, aft deck lounge, wheelhouse, top deck seating area, hot tub.



OUR SHIPS



On All Ships

Open wheelhouse: You are welcome to come into the ship's wheelhouse, from which our crew are navigating the ship.

Take the helm: You are also welcome to take the helm under the crew's guidance.

Help sail: On our sailing ship, you are welcome to help sail, under the crew's guidance.

Gourmet cuisine: Our chefs prepare delicious meals from scratch daily.

Fishing: If you bring a fishing licence, you can try your hand at fishing, using the ship's gear.

Hydrophones and natural history tools: The ships are well stocked to explore the wonders of nature.

Kayaking: You can go for a paddle in coves and bays.

Gear: We have a limited amount of gear we can loan you.



ABOUT MAPLE LEAF ADVENTURES

All-Inclusive Highlights

- All accommodations included in your trip, including comfortable, classic ship-board amenities with fluffy duvets, and local lodges if your trip includes a lodge stay.
- All shore trips, wildlife viewing, and zodiac excursions guided by our expert, knowledgeable crew/guides. All cultural site visits, and all additional local guides.
- All meals and snacks, prepared freshly for you by our chef. Meals feature great variety, and highlight local, fresh specialties.
- All beverages including coffee, tea, juices and sodas, filtered water, wine and craft beer.
- The services of our naturalist and crew both aboard the ship and ashore. These caring, entertaining and knowledgeable people are your hosts for the trip, always available for questions, teaching, or conversation.
- Use of gear on board including kayaks, fishing gear, and rubber boots.

Typical Activities

Rainforest walks
Beachcombing
Exploring by small boat
Wildlife viewing
Cruising
Sailing (sailing ship only)

Kayaking (optional)
Hiking (optional)
Coastal village visits
Cultural site visits and guides
Photography
Fishing (with a licence)
Natural history learning, in all environments, with our naturalist

Foraging (sea asparagus, berries, and other items, some trips only)
Whale identification for research (on trips with whales)



**For Questions, Brochures with Itineraries,
or to Book Your Trip
Contact**

+1-250-386-7245 or 1-888-599-5323

MapleLeafAdventures.com

info@MapleLeafAdventures.com

Sign up for our e-newsletter to learn about upcoming special packages, 2020 schedule, and more.

By Travelling with Maple Leaf, You Support
Local, Conservation-Based Enterprises



All photographs in the Leaflet are captured on trip by our crew: Jeff Reynolds, Greg Shea, Philip Stone, Tavish Campbell, Grace van Helvoirt, Kayleen VanderRee, Kevin Smith, Scott Forsyth, Brandon Harvey, Sherry Kirkvold, Robert Oakes, and Matt Whelan. Cover photo by Robert Oakes.

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