



Art at Sea Painting Holiday

Whales & Totems of BC Edition

A Frommer's "Trip of a Lifetime"



*“Some nights I
bear whales in my
dreams.*

*Some nights I wake
...and find it hasn't
been a dream at
all.”*

—Alexandra Morton,
Listening to Whales

A Nature Painter's Holiday

Let rainforests, killer whales and the ancient art of the Kwakwaka'wakw people inspire your painting on this artist-led tour aboard B.C.'s classic schooner Maple Leaf.

This 5-night tour, with featured artist Karin Richter, includes some of the richest wildlife areas on the planet.

Here, mountains drop to the sea and giant rainforests form cathedrals of green in the rich valley bottoms. In autumn, this series of 200+ islands and fjords becomes the home of the Northern Resident killer whale population - it's the best place on the planet to view these intelligent marine mammals.

On the trip, you'll learn techniques from Karin, as you spend painting time on the ship, and photography and sketching time on shore. The small group of students enables you to have excellent one-on-one time with Karin as well as making group lessons easy.

The trip also includes delicious meals from our professional chef, frequent shore excursions and lots of

opportunities to learn about the coast, its history and its wildlife from your expert crew.

About the Ship Maple Leaf

Your ship, the schooner Maple Leaf, is a work of art herself.

Often painted and admired, she is a heritage coastal vessel, built from coastal cedar and Douglas fir, finished with mahogany brightwork.

She has glossy cap rails, long decks and 2500 square feet of sail. More info on her is below.

About the Trip and Area

This is the "Serengeti of the sea": rich in wildlife, home to a complex whale community, addictive cruising and ancient human cultures.

It is the best place on earth to see killer whales. Among the 200+ islands of the Broughton Archipelago, the whales have come, along with dolphins, sea lions and seals, for millennia to eat salmon.





Art at Sea Painting Holiday - Whales & Totems of BC

"This was an exciting and wondrous adventure into nature's pallet.

"As a girl born in the interior of BC, I could only imagine what this part of my province was really like. I now have had a taste of this rugged country.

"Thank you all, Maple Leaf crew for your wonderful presence and care and professionalism throughout this week. I definitely will be seeing you again.

- Ingrid Vincent, Calgary, Canada

2012
Art at Sea, Whales & Totems
Aug. 22-27, 5 nights, 6 days
C \$2825

Depart & Return: Port McNeill, B.C.

Maple Leaf Adventures
PO Box 8845, Stn. Central
Victoria, B.C., V8W 3Z1 Canada

toll free 1-888-599-5323
local 1-250-386-7245



Cultures of the Area

The salmon support the Kwakwaka'wakw people, too, and a colourful frontier culture. This trip is rich in variety and colourful villages.

At Alert Bay, home to the impressive U'mista cultural centre, you'll learn from local residents the stories of the Kwakwala speaking peoples.

We'll see their art and enter the world of the potlatch with a guided tour of the powerful collection of paraphernalia (seized by the Government of Canada and finally returned to the Kwakwaka'wakw people).

Telegraph Cove and Echo Bay are both home to traditional pioneer boardwalk communities.

About Instructor Karin Richter

Born in Germany into an artistic family, Karin has had a passion for painting since she was a child. She has been a professional artist for more than 20 years. Her subjects are varied and she enjoys working in watercolour, oils, acrylics and pastels.



Calgary has been home to Karin and her family since 1977. Throughout the years, Karin's paintings have been featured in solo and group shows in many prominent locations and private and public galleries locally, nationally and internationally. Sharing her knowledge of painting has been a joy to Karin for many years.

She is an enthusiastic art instructor to many aspiring artists in classes and workshops in Calgary, across Canada and overseas.

An elected member of the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolor (CSPWC), the Alberta Society of Artists (ASA), the Society of Canadian Artists (SCA) and an active member of the Federation of Canadian Artists, Karin has received many awards. She is a featured artist at the famous Butchart Gardens.

Sample Itinerary

Day 1 Board Maple Leaf, orientation, sailing. Porpoise and dolphin viewing. Painting.

Day 2 Killer whale watching for hours. Lunch in the company of whales. Painting. Evening forest interpretive walk.

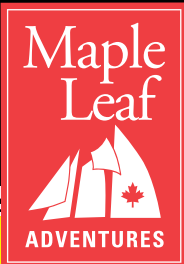
Day 3 Sailing. Shore walk and intertidal life viewing. Visit remote Echo Bay and Billy Proctor's Museum. Painting.

Day 4 Cruising mainland fjord, river estuary walk, search for bears. Optional kayak, zodiac ride. Painting.

Day 5 Village Island ancient Kwakwaka'wakw village site, painting, Alert Bay and U'mista cultural centre, humpback whale watching.

Day 6 Killer whale watching, cruising to Port McNeill.





Wild BC and Alaska Tours by Sail

A Frommer's "Trip of a Lifetime"



Since 1986, trips with Maple Leaf Adventures have been described by guests and international media as the "Trip of a Lifetime".

Turn the page to start arranging yours.

Join us and experience the amazing natural wonders of the British Columbia and southeast Alaska coast. Your 5-day to 11-day tour explores this vast paradise of 50,000 islands and 40,000 km of shoreline.

Relax, rejuvenate and learn as you sail on a beautiful schooner through fjords and archipelagos. You will visit the best areas at the best times to see them.

On Maple Leaf, the proximity you will feel to the coast's natural wonders is incomparable with any other form of water travel.

Sail with an escort of dolphins. Feel the spray from waterfalls driving straight to the sea. Walk into ancient forests that are some of the most unspoiled on the planet. The education you'll receive from our onboard naturalist, and from elders and coastal residents we visit, will enliven your world further.

You will encounter peak times for natural events like whale and bird migrations, and grizzly bear salmon fishing. You'll be well cared for by our chef and experienced crew who will interact with you as an individual, rather than as a number in a crowd.

Northwest coast cultures we visit include the Haida, Haisla, Kitasoo and Kwakwaka'wakw.





General and Booking Information



Family & Friends Trips

Planning a family reunion? Thinking of spending some special time with friends?

Over the years, a number of extended families or groups of friends have booked a whole charter. They say it provides them quality time in an unhurried, magical atmosphere, allowing them to connect on a deeper level than in our normal "hurly-burly" world. Not to mention that the crew, chef and naturalist take care of the logistics!

If you think this is something you'd like to do, call us to discuss. Advance notice to book an entire trip is required, so let us know as soon as possible so that we can accommodate your plans.



About Our Company

Maple Leaf Adventures has been operating trips focused on the natural history of B.C.'s northwest coast and Alaska, and the culture of the First Nations peoples of the areas, since 1986. We have a reputation for quality, professionalism and sensitivity to both the natural and cultural landscapes.

Our institutional clients have included the Royal BC Museum, The Canadian Museum of Civilization and the John G Shedd Aquarium. Our company has been recognized by the Canadian government as a leader in eco-tourism and our trips have been featured internationally in such travel guides as *Frommer's* and on the Oprah Winfrey television show.

How to Book Your Trip

To book, we welcome your call or email (see back page for contact info). We accept cheque, visa or master card. You'll receive a trip planning booklet and we are always here to help you.

About Our Trips and the Ship

Our trips take place in the best areas and at peak times for natural phenomena; therefore they originate from different places on the coast. Our guests fly, drive, or take a ferry to meet us at trips' point of origin, which maximizes the amount of time we are able to spend exploring our chosen areas.

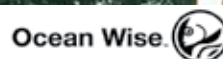
A small group of **8 guests** allows us the flexibility to respond to special natural events, weather, and the interests of our group.

Our days are full but our pace is unhurried, giving time to linger with whales, sketch in a Haida village, beachcomb, and walk ancient forests. We go ashore often to experience the entire place, not just the view.

Expert naturalists accompany you on every voyage. Veterans of local field research, they share

their expertise and abundant knowledge on a very understandable and enjoyable level. Our chef prepares amazing meals and snacks fresh every day.

Maple Leaf is a beautiful 92-foot schooner, certified by Transport Canada. She has a long and enviable reputation on the coast. Her accommodations are very comfortable. The spacious main cabin is airy and divided by curtains and walls into four "cabins," providing sleeping accommodations for eight guests. Mahogany and fir line the galley, dining salon and wheelhouse. She has an extensive library and three decks.



Recommended by the Vancouver Aquarium as an ocean-friendly seafood choice.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is this trip suitable for me?

A. Anyone is eligible so long as they are enthusiastic about participating, amenable to the vagaries of weather, agile enough to clamber in and out of shore vessels in an area where there are no docks, and friendly enough to get along in the relatively close quarters of a sailing yacht. We have had people on board as much as 80 years of age. However, our trips are not suitable for people of failing health or physical disabilities.

Q. What is included in the price?

A. Our price includes all meals, activities and guides throughout your voyage in the region you are visiting. Specifically included:

- All meals, snacks and beverages prepared from the freshest ingredients by our superb chef.
- Fine wines featured with the evening meal, and a limited amount of beer included and available throughout the trip. (Liquor is not a large part of our trips, so plan on light consumption).
- The services of our naturalist and professional crew.
- Shore excursions (there are several each day).

- Use of all gear available on board, including raingear, sea boots, kayaks and fishing gear.

Not included in our price:

- Transportation to the trip's point of origin.
- Goods and Service Tax (Canadian trips only)
- Crew gratuities
- Sustainability Fee. As a professional ecotourism company, it is at the core of our operating principles to work with local communities, respecting regulations and contributing to local opportunities. Responsible operations cost a little more. We extract from the fare a percentage of the increased costs that go towards sustainable communities add it to the list price as a 'sustainability fee' of \$100 per trip. Through it we hope our guests share in the pride that a trip with Maple Leaf is a contribution to the sustainability of the whole coast – as well as being the experience of a lifetime!

Q. Can you accommodate my special diet?

A. Yes. If you advise us in the pre-trip questionnaire we can accommodate most special dietary requirements.

Q. Will I be seasick?

A. Sea sickness is rarely a problem as Maple Leaf is a sturdy and sea-kindly ship. We travel short distances in protected waters and go ashore often.

Q. Can I be involved in sailing the ship and performing other duties?

A. Absolutely yes. We encourage our guests to participate in any aspect of the trip that interests them and to whatever level they are comfortable with. We are patient instructors (no yelling) and delight in helping people learn. On the other hand, you are not required to sail or perform duties while on your vacation. The choice is yours.

Q: What makes you an eco-tourism company?

- A:
- Our trips have low impact (virtually no impact) on the planet and on the places we visit.
 - We partner with local people. We have protocol agreements either signed or in process with First Nations in territories we visit.
 - Our naturalists – experts in their fields – and other knowledgeable crew members provide a wealth of knowledge on the areas we visit, as do our First Nations guides.
 - We work within the regulations of parks and conservation areas, pay the applicable fees and obtain permits for all limited-use areas we visit.
 - We dedicate time and resources to preserving the wilderness we travel in.





Wild BC and Alaska Tours by Sail



"Thanks for the best vacation ever."

— Carrie Novick, Oregon.

Contact Us

To book a trip or for help with any questions you may have, we welcome your call or email.

Maple Leaf Adventures
PO Box 8845, Stn. Central,
Victoria, B.C., V8W 3Z1 Canada

info@MapleLeafAdventures.com
toll free 1-888-599-5323
local 1-250-386-7245



Booking and Cancellation Policy

To avoid disappointment, your reservation should be made early. The number of participants in each program is limited, and the demand is high. Our trips sell out early.

North America Trips

Deposit: A deposit of one third of the price of the trip will reserve your space for any trip.

Balance: The balance is due 120 days prior to departure.

Cancellations: If you are unable to participate and cancellation occurs at least 120 days prior to the departure date of your trip, the full amount of your deposit is refundable, minus a \$200 admin fee. If cancellation occurs less than 120 days prior to the departure date of your trip, we will do our best to try to fill your space on the trip, however no money will be refunded unless all the spaces on your trip are filled.

Galapagos Islands Trips

Deposit: A nonrefundable deposit of US \$1000 reserves a place on the trip. On payment of the deposit you will receive: receipt/invoice, medical information form, agreement and release from liability form, itinerary and additional information covering packing lists, visa requirements, health issues, etc.

Balance: The balance is due 3 months prior to departure date. On payment of the balance you will receive: receipt, final trip bulletin including participant list and rendezvous instructions.

Single Supplement: Accommodations are based on double occupancy. If you are traveling alone and wish to share accommodation, we will try to assign you a roommate. If there

is no one with whom you can share, or if you prefer single accommodation, you will be requested to pay a Single Supplement, as listed for each trip.

Cancellation Policy: At the time we receive written notice of your wish to cancel your trip, the following fees will apply: * 90 days+ from departure date: 100% of deposit; * 89 to 60 days from departure date: 50% of Land Cost; * 59 days or less from departure date: 100% of Land Cost

Group Bookings

For large group bookings, such as a family charter of the entire ship, the booking and cancellation policy may be different - please do contact us for information.

Cancellation Insurance

We highly recommend cancellation insurance, which protects you if you have to make a late cancellation in certain cases (such as a medical emergency). Travel insurance can be purchased through your travel agency or through our travel agent (contact us for info). This must be done at the time your booking is confirmed.

Pre-Trip Information Package

A comprehensive pre-trip information package will welcome you "aboard" at the time of booking. It includes information on clothing and other items to bring, how to get to your trip, insurance, visa requirements, etc.

Getting to & from the Ship

Our office staff can help you with these questions and arrangements - call or email any time.