

MULTISPORT

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The San Juan Islands



Classic
JOURNEYS



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

Leaping Orcas to Soaring Rainforests

Get ready to be inspected by a wild Orca making a “spy hop” 20 feet off the port bow. To discover huge grape- and pumpkin-colored sea stars clinging to the shaded side of a boulder at low tide. To go sea-kayaking, meet artisanal producers of wine, lavender, gin and ceramics, hike scenic mountain trails surrounded by blue water and green islands. It’s all ready and waiting for you, right now, in the San Juan Islands. They’re jewels—just remote enough—sprinkled across fine blue waters, accessible only by ferry, but not far from Seattle. Surrounded by snow-capped peaks, the islands are in the heart of the Pacific Northwest’s “banana belt”. They’re gorgeous, too, from their mountainous heart to their photogenic shorelines. With Classic Journeys, you get to do it all with no hassles and non-stop fun. The San Juan Islands are a classic off-the-grid destination, a well-kept secret of Northwesterners for decades. Now it’s your turn. Come experience them in Classic Journeys style.

DAY 1

SAN JUAN ISLAND

- Enjoy a warm-up walk with views to Mt. Rainier
- Celebrate over a festive welcome dinner

Start your explorations in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island. On arrival, venture with your guide to the nearby southern side of the island. Here, enjoy a warm-up walk to the American Camp, past beautiful meadows and along a ridge with spectacular views of Mt. Rainier and the Cascade Mountain Range. This makes for a fantastic introduction to the islands, as you explore the historic settlement and see what life was like for the early settlers. Both the Americans and the British claimed the islands for a time during the 1800s and had forts here.

Return to your hotel in the late afternoon to relax before a welcome dinner, featuring many of the specialties of the islands, such as fresh oysters and acclaimed Washington State wines. After dinner, relax watching the sunset, as the islands enjoy daylight until after nine o'clock in the summertime.

OVERNIGHT: SAN JUAN ISLAND
MEALS: D

DAY 2

SAN JUAN ISLAND

- Spot eagles and falcons on a natural history walk
- Taste award-winning apple cider and gin at an artisanal distillery

San Juan Island is noted for its excellent local art culture and amazing natural history. Today, you'll enjoy both. Fortified with a breakfast of locally made yogurt, fresh preserves spread on homemade scones and island roasted coffee, enjoy a morning walk that follows the slopes of Young Mountain. Throughout the walk, you're rewarded with incredible views of the neighboring islands, nearby Mt. Baker volcano, as well as Mt. Rainier and the Cascade Mountain Range. You'll also spot some of the over 60 species of birds (including eagles and falcons) that make their home in the islands—a haven for nature photographers.

The walk ends at a fascinating sculpture garden, with over 80 works of art on loan from local and nationally acclaimed artists. Scattered over 19 acres of gardens and lakes, the art integrates seamlessly into the surrounding hills and bays. Midday, visit the hatchery at the local oyster farms, to learn about the process of shellfish aquaculture that produces the flavorful and famous oysters here along the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

This afternoon, forget for a moment that you didn't bring your passport with you on the trip, because the landscape and climate conditions in Westcott Bay are nearly identical to those in Normandy, France. There, French farmers have been making cider brandy, called Calvados, from their orchards for centuries. Our friends Rich, Suzy and Hawk welcome you and share how they're following in the Norman tradition to make a Washington state apple brandy just as good as French Calvados. And as you'll find, they're off to a good start, having won gold and bronze medals for their Apple Eau de Vie (the fresh clear distillate from the cider). Of course, as university professors, they couldn't leave well-enough alone, and so they began experimenting, creating recipes for brandies, liqueurs,

bitters, and gin, which has won silver medalists in national craft distilled competitions.

OVERNIGHT: SAN JUAN ISLAND
MEALS: B

DAY 3

SAN JUAN ISLAND

- Sea kayak in search of whales
- Walk through a valley of lavender

This morning, enjoy the incredible opportunity to sea kayak off the west coast of San Juan Island. This is prime Orca whale territory and if you've ever dreamed of seeing the great mammals up close, you are in for an incredible experience. You'll board very stable, easy to paddle two-man kayaks and, in the company of expert kayakers and your guide, paddle through the calm, protected waters of the Haro Strait to play with the whales as they search for salmon. (Note: Guests of a wide variety of ages and abilities have joined us sea kayaking. But if it sounds a little too adventurous for you, we can organize a boating excursion to see the whales as well.)

Totally invigorated from a morning with the whales, you can totally chill out to a different sensory overload this afternoon: lavender. Everywhere. Yesterday you could be forgiven you were in Normandy, France. Today you could be in Provence. Waiting for you is Stephen Robins, who emigrated to San Juan Island from South Africa. And what started as a goal to protect a scenic valley from residential development, has turned into a self-sustaining lavender farm. Join him for a walk around the farm and to see how its evolved into a distiller of lavender essential oils and handcrafted lavender products.

OVERNIGHT: SAN JUAN ISLAND
MEALS: B

DAY 4

ORCAS ISLAND

- Ferry across a marine preserve to nearby Orcas Island
- Hike trails on with views to the Cascades and Olympic Peninsula
- Picnic amid vineyards

The day starts with an island-hop by ferry as you set sail from San Juan Island, across the marine preserve and past Shaw Island for nearby Orcas Island. Destination this morning is Moran State Park, for the spectacular hiking trails on Mount Constitution, the highest point in the San Juan's. Climb to the top if you want (it is worth the climb), but even if you don't summit, the panoramic views of the islands, snow-covered Mount Baker, the Cascades and the Olympic Peninsula are really breathtaking.

You've no doubt noticed during the week that people come to the San Juan Islands to get away from it all and to practice artisanal crafts. You'll experience that firsthand this afternoon on a countryside walk in the shadow of Turtleback Mountain the leads to and through the vineyards of Orcas Island Winery, the only winery on Orcas Island. Husband and wife Wes and Tera have carefully cultivated 16 acres of vineyards from the wild landscape and turned it into a haven to walk, picnic and wine taste. Picture yourself walking through the vineyard with Wes, tasting some of the wines in their modern farmhouse tasting room, and then laying on a blanket with a picnic basket.

DAILY ITINERARY
PACIFIC NORTHWEST | THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS | MULTISPORT

OVERNIGHT: ORCAS ISLAND
MEALS: B

DAY 5

ORCAS ISLAND

- Board your own private boat to spot orca, gray and humpback whales
- Skirt neighboring islands and see bald eagles

You've met locals, kayaked, hiked, spotted wildlife and feasted on artisanal food and spirits. But today will likely top them all because today you're on your own private boat spotting orca whales, gray whales, humpback whales, porpoises, seals, sea lions, otters, bald eagles and much more. Your captain knows all the secret places to find the whales and other sea life and has fantastic stories to tell. For examples, as you skirt the shores of Shaw Island consider that even though Bill Gates owns a house there, its most famous residents are the seven Benedictine nuns who operate a working farm.

The afternoon is yours to explore more the tapestry of rural landscapes and the little artisan shops. This evening, a celebratory dinner offers a chance to toast the week.

OVERNIGHT: ORCAS ISLAND
MEALS: B, D

DAY 6

ORCAS ISLAND

- Part company after breakfast
- Return to Seattle by ferry or sea plane

After a relaxing morning, say goodbye to the islands by seaplane back to Seattle. You might opt to spend more time in the magnificent Northwest, or return home filled with exciting memories of your week in the spectacular San Juan's.

MEALS: B



Tour Hotels



Friday Harbor House

With its views of Friday Harbor and the ferry landing, this hotel offers rooms with Zen-like atmosphere, a picture window, fireplace and an oversized, jetted tub-for-two. Don't miss the continental breakfast with homemade granola and local specialties.

OVERNIGHT: FRIDAY HARBOR | NIGHTS: 3



Outlook Inn

The Outlook Inn boasts gorgeous views of Fishing Bay, and surrounded by charming shops, restaurants, and galleries that can be reached on foot. A farmers' market is open in the summer and fresh, local cuisine can be found year-round.

OVERNIGHT: ORCAS ISLAND | NIGHTS: 2

Tour Dates & Prices

Tour Dates	Price per Person	Price per Person
	Double Occupancy	Single Occupancy
July 18-23, 2021	\$3,995	\$4,690
September 5-10, 2021	\$3,995	\$4,690
July 17-22, 2022	\$3,995	\$4,690
September 4-9, 2022	\$3,995	\$4,690

Want a different date? Or your own date? Visit CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE to learn more about private journeys.

Trip Essentials

TRIP LENGTH: 6 Days, 5 Nights

START: 2:00 PM Lobby of Friday Harbor House Hotel, Friday Harbor, Washington

END: 12:00 PM Seattle, Seattle, Washington Return to Seattle by ferry or sea plane

TERRAIN: Ranging from very easy to moderate, including walks, sea kayaking, tide pooling, whale watching, birding, and cultural visits. Always guided.

What's Included

- Memorable accommodations for 5 nights
- 5 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

- **Invisible Check-In**
- **Privileged Access Events**
- **Perfect Pairings Dinners**

READY TO BOOK?
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Or give us a call

1-833-387-1210

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST

moreinfo@classicjourneys.com



TRAVEL WORRY-FREE!

It's easy with insurance from Travel Guard. Your policy can cover trip cancellation, travel delays, lost luggage, medical emergencies, and more. If you are traveling with kids, add them to your policy at no extra cost. [Click here](#) or call 800-826-4919 for details.

AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to [a whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

**Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

THE Classic Journeys Difference

HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

President & Founder



You can expect the highest standards:



Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in San Juan Islands...

- Kayaking offshore while watching for whales
- Enjoying oysters, blackberry pie and amazing local wines
- Luxuriating at your grand chateau-style hotel on Vancouver Island
- Walking amid soaring 500-year-old Sitka spruce trees
- Exploring the world-famous 50-acre Butchart Gardens

"The accommodations are stellar--each one outdoing the previous location. They were very high class, comfortable and nature-oriented."

—Robert & Laurie G., Grapevine, TX

Let's Go!

TO RESERVE: 833.493.5038 | CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/RESERVATIONS

You might also enjoy...



Alaska

Kenai Peninsula

Multisport

PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Rambling riverside, forest and coastal trails
- Spotting wildlife, waterfalls and flowering meadows
- Cruising sparkling fjords with breathtaking vistas

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/alaska/>.



Canadian Rockies

Banff & Jasper National Parks

Multisport

PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Marveling at glaciers and snow-capped peaks
- Hiking spectacular gorges with rushing waterfalls
- Sighting wildflowers and wildlife at every turn

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/canadianrockies/>.



Napa & Sonoma

California Wine Country

Culture + Walking

PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Savoring private winery tours and tastings
- Rambling redwood groves and rolling hillsides
- Exploring the classic towns of Yountville, Healdsburg and Sonoma

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/napa/>.

You might also enjoy...



Nova Scotia

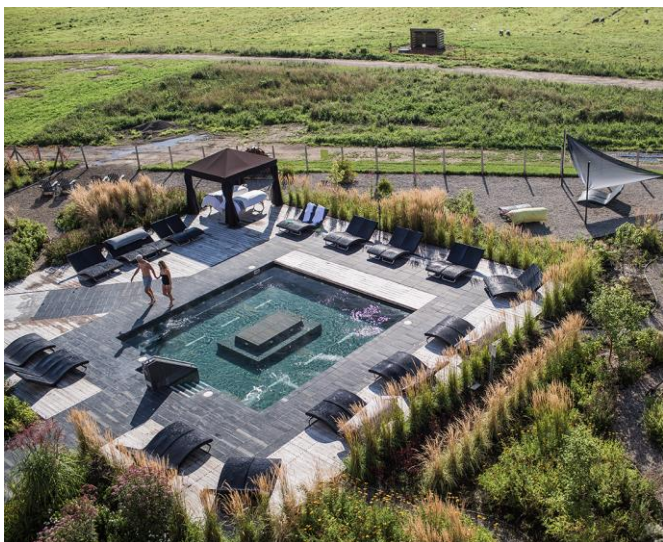
Halifax, Bay of Fundy & Lunenburg

Culture + Walking

PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Exploring historic seaports, coastal paths and fishing villages
- Enjoying unsurpassed birding and whale watching
- Sailing along Lunenburg's historic waterfront

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/novascotia/>.



Québec

Québec City to Charlevoix

Culture + Walking

PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Exploring picturesque hamlets on a pastoral island
- Rambling riverside trails with gorgeous views
- Cruising spectacular fjords with whales for company

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/quebec/>.

“Enthusiasm is Contagious”

AS TRAVEL + LEISURE NAMES CLASSIC JOURNEYS THE WORLD'S BEST TOUR OPERATOR FOR 2019, FOUNDER EDWARD PIEGZA REVEALS HOW IT FEELS. ENTHUSIASTICALLY.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Just before publication of this issue, Travel + Leisure magazine announced that its readers have voted Classic Journeys the World's Best Tour Operator for 2019. It's the second time Classic Journeys has won that recognition and the 14th consecutive year the company has been in the Top 10.

Congratulations! How did you get the news?

I received a top-secret email and phone call from the editor of *Travel + Leisure* a few weeks ago with orders not to tell ANYONE. Friends and neighbors must have wondered why my smile has been so extra big lately. Now they know.

And how does it feel to be the World's Best Tour Operator again?

Awesome. Humbling. So, so satisfying. Deeply gratifying to learn that we have achieved what we set out to do which is to handcraft trips of a lifetime for every guest who travels with us. I'm known as long-winded, so I could probably come up with 10 or 15 more ways to describe it if you want me to keep going.

Why do you think *Travel + Leisure* gave you this recognition?

Actually, it isn't the *T+L* editors who make the decision. That's the best part. Their readers cast the votes. So the people who do the traveling, the guests who explore the world with us and our competitors — they are the ones who raised their hands to tell *T+L* that Classic Journeys is the World's Best Tour Operator based on their own experiences. Let me say it right here: "To all of you who voted for us, you are the World's Best Guests!"

What do you think makes your guests the World's Best Guests?

That's easy. They are curious. They care about connecting with people of different cultures and immersing themselves in the world. They treasure experiences more than things. Like the old ad slogan went, they go for the gusto and crave the chance to have one-of-a-kind moments. They are incredibly interesting and interested people, and all of us at Classic Journeys count it as a real privilege to share in their passion for travel. And we feel that way on the

other 364 days of the year when we're not celebrating recognition like this.

I guess this is what you meant when you told me that "Enthusiasm is contagious."

Absolutely. That's not our official motto, but it could be. We love what we do. We enjoy helping guests figure out how to invest their precious time and budget. I can honestly say that all of us feel that way — the Guest Services folks who interact with you while you're planning your trip, the Tour Operations team members who plan all of the logistics, the local guides who lead each one of our trips full time. There's just a huge amount of positive energy in what we do, and I think it truly is hard to resist. We'd climb into every one of our guest's suitcases and go along with them if we could. Because we can't, we call each guest while they're on tour just to be sure they are having a trip of a lifetime.

Has anyone ever called Classic Journeys obsessive?

I hope so, because we are. Everything is in the details. For instance, we've created a special tour for the total eclipse of the sun which is going to pass over parts of South America in 2020. We've already analyzed likely traffic patterns in the most remote areas and figured out how to structure our itinerary so that our guests will be in place in the path of totality while the people who don't plan ahead will be stuck in jams on remote dirt roads. We enjoy obsessing about details like that so that our guests never have to.



How can you top this?

Oh, we never let ourselves think of it that way. We just continue to approach every single guest on each and every departure like the most important guest we've ever had. It seems to be working! Of course, we keep looking for new ways to win more converts. For 2019, we've launched a new series of Classic Journeys that are based from

"I voted for you!"

We've heard that expression so many times lately from guests who registered their votes with *Travel + Leisure*. Given the results, we know it's true ... and you know that your votes really count!

STAFF AND GUIDES

"I always feel like I'm traveling with a best friend. I prefer your local guides to the ones that other companies fly in."

ITINERARIES AND DESTINATIONS

"If it's on my bucket list, you always seem to go there. Of course, with so many options you always seem to make my list longer and longer!"

ACTIVITIES

"On your trips, I've cooked with Michelin chefs, sung songs with Quechua schoolchildren, and walked on glaciers with the descendants of Vikings. Fun doesn't begin to describe it."

ACCOMMODATIONS

"How you manage so many 5-star properties on these trips shocks me. But please, please, please keep it up!"

FOOD

"I have never eaten so well so often so happily. When you people claim that you are foodies, you aren't kidding."

OVERALL VALUE

"We have never had a better vacation at any price."

river cruise boats. On a different note, seeing how many travelers can't always find as much vacation time as they really want, we have developed a series of 6-day or shorter quick trips that go as far afield as Iceland, the Galápagos and Morocco.

Final thoughts?

It's always an honor to win recognition. But, for all of us at Classic Journeys, the biggest privilege is to share the dreams of our guests and make those dreams come true. That connection is the best feeling of all.