

**PROPOSED TOUR TO
VANCOUVER & ALASKA
02nd – 12th September 2010
Tour Leader: Sue Lewis
In association with Silversea**

Silversea together with Sue Lewis Travel would like to invite you to join us for a stunning nine day Alaskan cruising experience.

Silversea creates extraordinary ocean travels with unique opportunities to explore remote ports-of-call from an intimate haven of incomparable comfort. You have the luxury of arriving on board, unpacking and not seeing your suitcase again until departure. But everyday you wake up in a new stunning location, with things to do and see. Witness wildlife in its natural habitat, including black and brown bears, deer, wolves, harbour seals and a variety of birds, such as arctic terns and pigeon guillemots.

Launched in 2000, the Silver Shadow is an all suite ship, each of which has ocean-views and provides a sumptuous retreat. Luxurious with twin or queen size beds, a large sitting area with sofa and two chairs, a writing desk, a dressing table, a large picture window going out onto your own veranda, a walk in wardrobe, and a well appointed bathroom with two sinks, bath and shower, in fact every comfort you could possibly need.

Sue Lewis travelled with Silversea this summer and experienced exceptional service. The food was excellent, dining in either the main restaurant, the Italian or Pool Grill. There is a wonderful Spa with every kind of treatment. In the afternoon there are excellent lectures about what you are going to see the following day. In the evening there is a live show and a small casino where you might like to try your luck; should you win you can spend it in a very good boutique!! There is also a Doctor on board; in fact the whole experience could not be faulted.

Finally there is no tipping on board and all food & drink is included, so come and join us on a trip of a lifetime.

02 September (Thursday)

You will meet Sue Lewis in London for your scheduled flight to Vancouver.

Flight timetables are yet to be confirmed, we therefore anticipate a daytime departure arriving Vancouver mid to late afternoon.

On arrival into Vancouver and after clearing immigration, transportation will be provided to transfer you to your hotel for an overnight stay in a 4* Vancouver hotel.

Vancouver is Canada's third-largest city, and became part of the Canadian Confederation in 1871. Along the waterfront, visitors can see everything from the cobblestone streets of late-Victorian Gastown to shiny, post-modern cathedrals.

In 1792, Captain George Vancouver explored Burrard Inlet during a coastal survey of what is now known as the Inside Passage. However, it was not until gold was discovered on the Fraser River in the 1860s that Vancouver actually became a town. At that time, the town was known as 'Gastown', named for

saloonkeeper John 'Gassy Jack' Deighton, a talkative storyteller who opened Vancouver's first bar in 1867. A fire destroyed the settlement two months after it was incorporated.

Most of Vancouver's structures date back to the rebuilding of the small town in 1886. With the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1889 and Vancouver as its terminus, the city established itself as Canada's main port for trade with the Orient. Today, the Port of Vancouver is still Canada's largest port and serves as a gateway to the Far East.

In the early-1900s, Vancouver boomed with the development of the fishing and timber industries. World War II catapulted the city's economy into modern times, and successful redevelopment in recent years has made Vancouver a very charming and liveable city.

Several new structures, including Canada Place Pier, were built for the 1986 EXPO that housed the Canadian Pavilion and is currently the home of the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre. It was modelled on old sailing ships and resembles a Spanish galleon from the rear.

The city will once again take its place in the international spotlight when it hosts the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

4 Star Vancouver Hotel (B)

03 September (Friday)

This afternoon you will be collected from the hotel and taken to the port for embarkation.

3pm – Embark Silver Shadow

5pm – Depart and commence your 9 night cruise.

04 September (Saturday)

Cruising The Inside Passage

Scenes of an untamed wilderness and outstanding natural beauty abound in this breathtaking cruise into a land carved by glaciers and blanketed with majestic hemlock and spruce through the magical Inside Passage. Alaska has always possessed a tranquil and mystical aura; our cruise allows once in a lifetime sights such as the elusive grizzly bear and giant humpback whales breaching high into the air.

05 September (Sunday)

Sitka, Alaska

Arrive: 1pm

Sitka began as an important Tlingit Indian village called Shee At'ika, which translates roughly as 'settlement on the outside of Shee'. Shee is the Tlingit name of Baranof Island.

In 1799, Alexander Baranof of the Russian American Company, a Colonial trading company, decided to set up camp at what is now called Old Sitka, located 7.5 miles (12 kilometres) north of the present-day town. Baranof called the settlement Redoubt Saint Michael. The Tlingit Indians of the area resisted the occupation and, in 1802, burned the fort and massacred the Russian settlers while Baranof was away.

Two years later, Baranof returned and besieged the Tlingits. The Tlingits withdrew, and left the Russians to build a new city on a different site. Baranof named this city New Archangel, or 'Novoarkhangelsk'. For over six decades, New Archangel was the capital of Russian Alaska. However, by 1867, the Alaskan colony had become too much of a financial burden to Russia. William Seward, U.S. Secretary of State, negotiated with Russia to purchase the Territory of Alaska for \$7.2 million. The American press scoffed at Seward and the U.S. government for purchasing what they called 'Seward's Folly', 'Seward's Icebox' and 'Walrussia'.

On October 18, 1867, the Russian flag was lowered and the Stars and Stripes raised over the newly-renamed Sitka. It remained the capital of the U.S. Territory of Alaska from 1867 to 1906, when the seat of government was moved to Juneau. The move was a direct result of the Gold Rush.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Sitka became a full-scale naval base. At one point during the war, Sitka's population totalled 37,000. After World War II ended, however, the city settled into a quieter existence. The biggest boom for Sitka came in 1959 when the Alaska Lumber and Pulp Company built a mill near the city.

Today, picturesque Sitka is known for fishing and its many historic attractions.

Depart: 6pm

06 September (Monday)

Skagway, Alaska

Arrive: 9am

The era of the Klondike Gold Rush comes alive in Skagway, the gateway to the Yukon Territory. Through the opening of the White Pass & Yukon Railroad to Canada's Yukon Territory, Skagway found its fame with the discovery of gold. The Gold Rush was such a boon that by 1898, Skagway was Alaska's largest town and home to a population of approximately 20,000. Hotels, saloons, dance halls and gambling prospered. However, when gold yields dwindled in 1900, so did Skagway's population.

Today, Skagway's inhabitants number less than 1,000, yet the town retains the flavour of the Gold Rush era in its historic downtown area. In addition to its fascinating history, Skagway also offers visitors opportunities to explore its expansive natural beauty. Hiking trails along the Skagway River or a journey on the famous narrow-gauge White Pass and Yukon Line offer incredible panoramic vistas.

Depart: 6pm

07 September (Tuesday)

Juneau, Alaska

Arrive: 7am

Considered by many to be the nation's most beautiful capital city, Juneau is famous for the unrivalled beauty of its spectacular mountains, glaciers, fjords, lakes, and wildlife. The town is nestled in the rain forest where the mountains meet the sea amidst the 17-million-acre (6.9-million-hectare) Tongass National Forest, and a 1,500-square-mile (3,900-square-kilometre) ice field. Juneau's terrain is hilly, and its winding, narrow streets are filled with character. This quaint yet sophisticated town is also rich in Native culture and gold-mining history.

In 1880, prospectors Joe Juneau and Richard Harris, led by the Tlingit chief Kowee, beached their canoes along the Gastineau Channel at the mouth of Gold Creek. They staked out a 160-acre town site, and a Gold Rush boomtown was born. After the loose gold in streambeds ran out, Juneau became a centre for hard-rock mining.

By the turn of the century, three of the world's largest mining operations were located in Juneau. These mines yielded over \$158 million in gold between 1880 and 1944. The last of four large mines that operated in the area closed down during World War II. By this time, Juneau had become the capital of Alaska and the business of government had replaced the business of mining.

Juneau is one of only two state capitals in the country that is not accessible by road; however, it is the second-largest city, in area, in the United States. Interesting museums, sophisticated shops and fine restaurants highlight Juneau's eclectic blend of small-town charm and cosmopolitan flair

Depart: 10pm

08 September (Wednesday)

Cruising Sawyer Glacier

Arrive: 9am

The twin Sawyer Glaciers, North Sawyer and South Sawyer, are located at the end of Tracy Arm. The wildlife in the area includes black and brown [bears](#), [deer](#), [wolves](#), [harbour seals](#), and a variety of [birds](#), such as [arctic terns](#) and [pigeon guillemots](#). The [mountain goats](#), which are usually found in the higher elevation areas, have been seen near the base of Sawyer Glacier.

Depart: 4pm

09 September (Thursday)

Ketchikan, Alaska

Arrive: 7am

The Tlingit Indians originally settled this area as a summer fishing camp, where five different species of salmon spawn every year. By the mid-1930s, Ketchikan had aptly named itself the 'Salmon Capital of the World'. In 1936 alone, the city packed more than 1.5 million cases of salmon.

Once a quintessential Alaskan logging and fishing town, Ketchikan was a workday place where visitors could wander the docks. But drastic declines in both the logging and fishing industries forced the city to change course, and today Ketchikan is a charming Alaskan tourist town catering to cruise ship guests. Ketchikan also boasts the world's largest collection of standing totem poles, and the nearby Misty Fjords National Monument.

Depart: 3pm

10 September (Friday)

Cruising The Inside Passage

11 September (Saturday)

Victoria, British Columbia

Arrive: 8am

This intimate, sophisticated seaside city is British Columbia's capital city, and one of the top tourist destinations in the Pacific Northwest. Victoria is situated on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, and enjoys one of Canada's mildest climates. In terms of environment and lifestyle, the area boasts the sunniest spot in the province and the gentlest in the country.

Victoria's unique character is deeply rooted in its 150-year history. The city's British Colonial heritage is still very much in evidence, but contemporary Victoria has a distinctly Pacific Northwest flavour.

Depart: 5.00pm

12 September (Sunday)

Vancouver, British Columbia

Arrive: 8am

This morning you will be transferred to Vancouver International airport for your scheduled flight back to UK.

END OF SERVICES

The price of a cruise only fare based on 2 people sharing a Veranda Suite cabin is:

➤ **£ 2,381 per person**

The price including port taxes, one night at a hotel in Vancouver and economy class flights based on two people sharing a Veranda Suite cabin is:

➤ **£ 3,101 per person**

The Price including port taxes, one night at a hotel in Vancouver and economy class flights based on one person in a Vista suite is:

➤ **£ 3,630 per person**

➤ **Further cabin & flight upgrades are available, please contact us for details**

NOTE:

- The operation of this tour is subject to minimum numbers.

- The price is subject to limited availability and is therefore subject to change. Early bookings will be rewarded with the best prices (above).

The price of this itinerary includes:

-9 nights full board accommodation

-Alcoholic and soft drinks served throughout the ship (premium brands can be purchased at extra cost)

-Fully stocked in-suite drinks cabinet

-Gratuities included, all onboard gratuities are included — none are ever expected

- Complimentary in-suite dining and 24-hour room service
- A full spectrum of entertainment
- Complimentary transportation into town. Roundtrip transportation from the pier to the heart of town in most ports of call

The price of this holiday does not include:

- Excursions from the ship.
- Spa treatments on board.
- Visa

This tour is run in conjunction with Silversea and will be subject to their booking conditions.