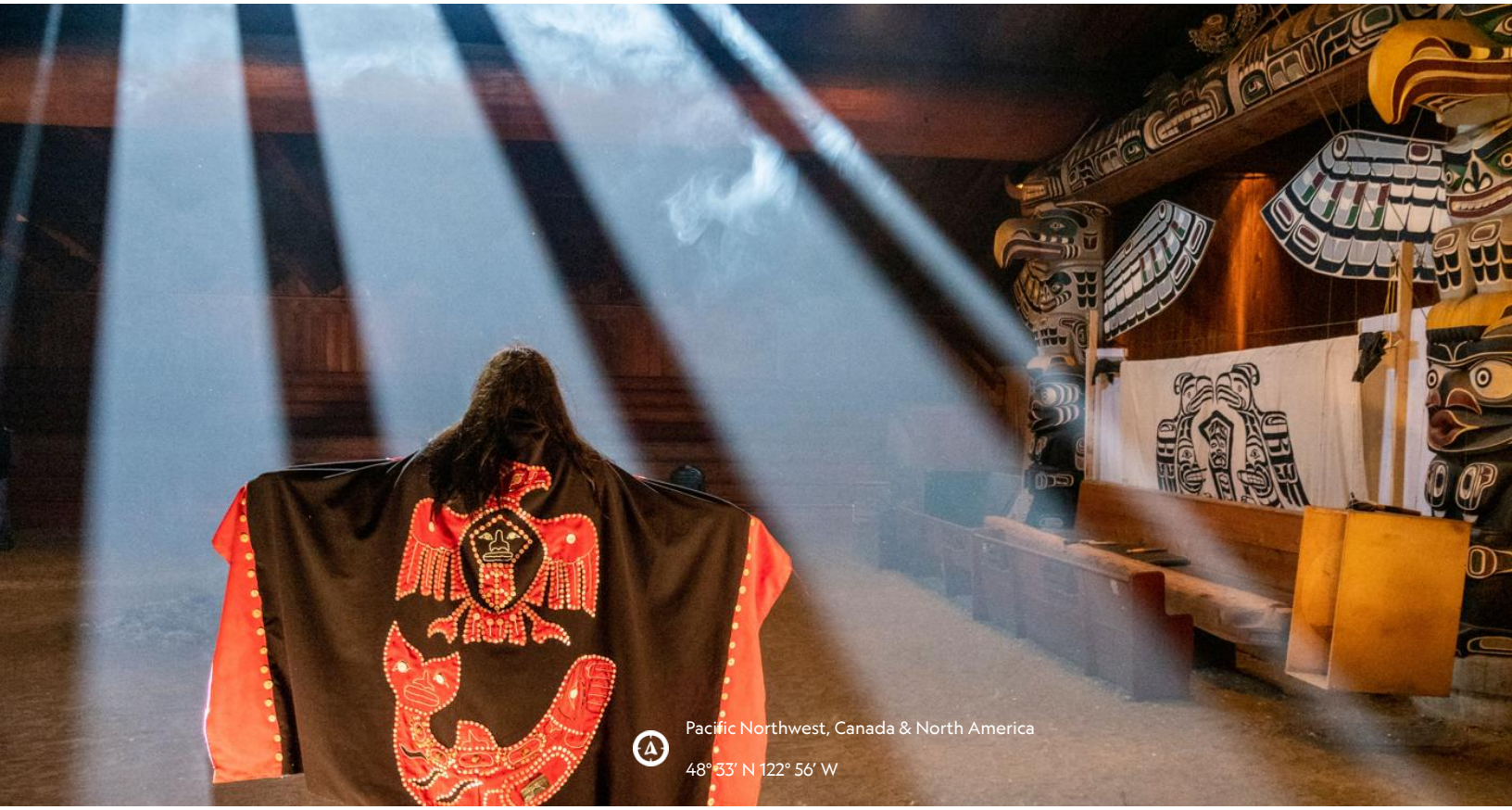



# Exploring British Columbia and the San Juan Islands

From
**£4,695** / per person
**Does not include flights**

| | |
|---|---|
| **DATES** Oct | **DURATION** 8 Days |
| **SHIPS** *National Geographic Quest* | |
| **STARTS AT** Seattle, Washington → | **ENDS AT** Seattle, Washington |

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.

# Highlights

- Explore remote islands by kayak or on foot, watching for sea lions, river otters, bald eagles, and white-sided dolphins
- Glide into the sheltered waters of Desolation Sound, discovering its natural beauty by Zodiac, kayak, or paddleboard
- Visit a cultural center in Alert Bay to see a collection of potlatch masks created by the Kwakwaka'wakw people
- Search for humpbacks and orcas in British Columbia, and learn about local populations from a researcher for the Center for Whale Research

Alert Bay
Johnstone Strait
Desolation Sound
Vancouver Island
Vancouver
Gulf Islands
San Juan Islands
Victoria
Seattle
mapbox
© Mapbox, © OpenStreetMap

# Day by day

DAY 1

## Seattle / Embark Ship

Arrive in Seattle, Washington state's largest city, and embark *National Geographic Quest* or *National Geographic Venture*.

**Arrival time:** Arrive by 2:00 p.m. local time.
**Arrival city:** Seattle, WA

Meals included: dinner

DAY 2

## 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, stroll through Old Town or peruse the collections at local art galleries. In the evening, enjoy a private reception at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria while taking in their wide-ranging collection.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 3

## 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.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 4

## Johnstone Strait / Alert Bay

Sail through Johnstone Strait, a waterway cut through a magnificently wild and scenic area of mountains and islands. These ocean waters are also home to extraordinary marine mammals and bird watching. Today, visit one of the oldest First Nations village sites in British Columbia. Alert Bay on Cormorant Island has been, and continues to be, the home of the Kwakwaka'wakw people and a center for the living culture found throughout the Northwest Coast. Visit the U'Mista Cultural Centre, which houses one of the northwest coast's finest collections of elaborately carved potlatch masks, regalia and coppers. Then, visit the Big House a short distance away where the T'sasala Cultural Group continues the sharing of culture, "educating the world about their songs, dances, teachings and values."

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 5

## Exploring the Gulf Islands

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

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 6

## 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.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 7

## Exploring the San Juan Islands

Visit the more remote of the San Juan Islands, an archipelago in northern Washington State perfect for kayaking, exploring by Zodiac and hiking. Walks with your expert staff will familiarize you with the natural and cultural history of the rugged northwest coast region. Tonight, enjoy the Captain's farewell dinner.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 8

## Seattle / Disembark Ship

Disembark *National Geographic Venture* and transfer to the airport for flights home.

**Departure time:** Depart after 11:30 a.m. local time.
**Departure city:** Seattle, WA

Meals included: breakfast

# 8-Day Expedition

Seattle, Washington → Seattle, Washington

## 2027 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Quest*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15 Oct | 22 Oct | | | |

## 2028 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Quest*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08 Oct | 16 Oct | | | |

# *National Geographic Quest*

| GUESTS | CABINS |
|---|---|
| 100 | 50 |

**_National Geographic Quest_, built in 2017, is designed for sailing into fast-moving channels and shallow coves in pan-American waters.**

When she rolled out of Nichols Brothers shipyard and into the bay on Whidbey Island, the 100 guest National Geographic Quest became the third ship in the Lindblad fleet built at this storied Pacific Northwest shipyard. In the 1970s, Nichols Brothers built the twin ships *National Geographic Sea Bird* and *National Geographic Sea Lion*, which continue to sail the waters of the west coast of North America and Central America.

*National Geographic Quest* was purpose-built to explore the fast-moving channels and narrow straits of Alaska, along the coast of Costa Rica and into the gray whale nursery lagoons of Baja, her design and engineering informed by our nearly 40 years of experience in these regions. Her twin boarding platforms, for example, were suggested by a veteran staffer. Enabling our team to load two Zodiacs at once means guests get off the ship quickly to take advantage of wildlife sightings and maximize exploring time.

*National Geographic Quest*'s shallow draft allows her captain to navigate the same inner reaches and provide intimate "insider" experiences in these charismatic regions. Modern, clean-lined, with large  expanses of glass to keep you connected to the extraordinary views, *National Geographic Quest* enables you to see, do and experience the best of her geographies.

# Cabin Categories

## Category 1

MAIN DECK **#301-306**

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, two nightstands and two portholes, full length mirror and reading lights.

## Category 2

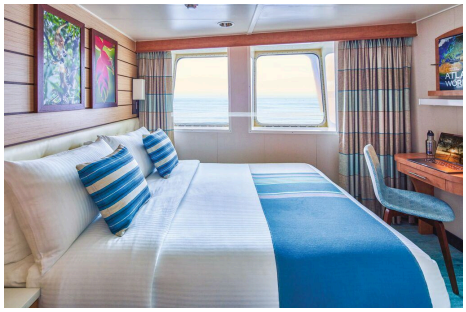
MAIN DECK **#307-315**

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, two nightstands and two portholes, full length mirror and reading lights.

## Category 3

UPPER DECK **#201-206**

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, two nightstands, a large view window, full-length mirror and reading lights.



## Category 4

UPPER DECK **#207-229**

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, closet, two nightstands, full-length mirror, reading lights, sliding glass door and a small, private balcony.

**Note:**

Solo occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third person rates are available in Category 5 cabins at one half the double occupancy rate.

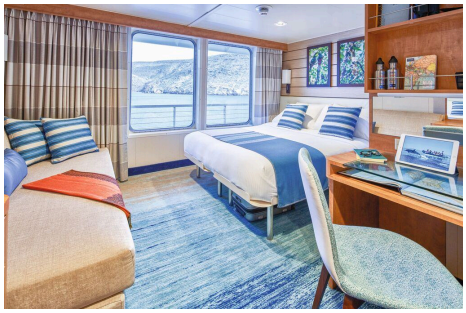
**Connecting Cabins via internal doorway access:**

Main Deck: #312-314, #311-315, #306-307;
Upper Deck: #224-226, #225-227

## Category 5

OBSERVATION DECK **#101-108 (SUITE)**

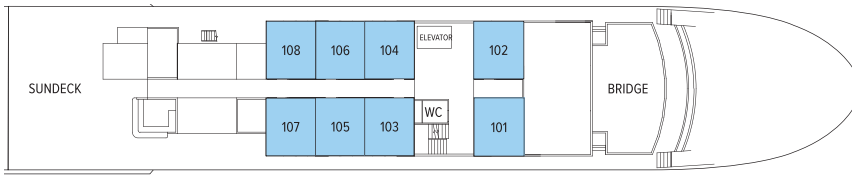
Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, large view windows, closet, two nightstands, full-length mirror, reading lights, a suite-sized expanded bathroom, writing desk, ample storage space and a convertible sofa bed to accommodate a third person.



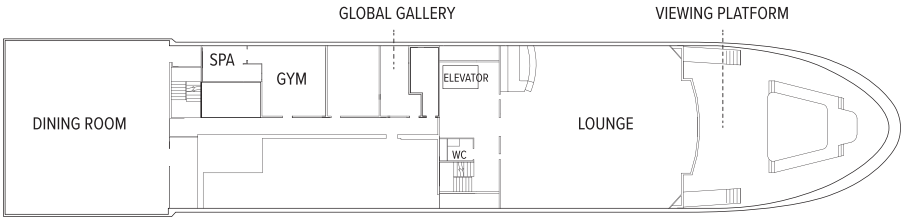
# Deck Plans

## Observation Deck

- Category 5




## Lounge Deck

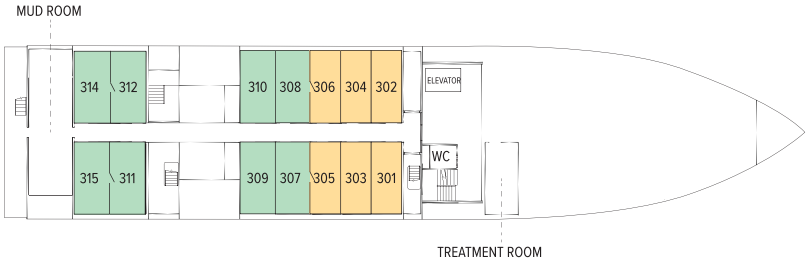



## Upper Deck

- Category 3
- Category 4

## Main Deck

- Category 1
- Category 2



# Ship Amenities

## Public Areas

Reception; main dining area; global gallery; fitness center; lounge with full-service bar and state-of-the-art presentation facilities; observation deck; mudroom with lockers for expedition gear; partially-covered furnished sundeck; plus open access to the Bridge, the Captain, officers and on-duty wildlife spotters.

## Meals

Meals are served in the dining room at a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Menus feature sustainable choices, local where possible.

## Cabins

50 outside cabins. All cabins face outside with windows, private bathroom, and climate controls. Cabins are equipped with Wi-Fi, phone, multiple electrical and USB outlets, and phones. Luxury linens and pillows. Botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, and lotion are all available in cabin bathrooms, as well as an Expedition Essential Kit. Hair dryers, complimentary insulated water bottles and a National Geographic Atlas are also available in each cabin.

## Expedition Equipment

A fleet of 8 Zodiacs, 24 kayaks, paddleboards; an ROV, hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, video microscope; snorkeling gear and wetsuits for all guests (where applicable).

## Special Features

National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions certified photo instructor, undersea specialist and video chronicler. Internet access. Elevator. The design of the outside decks—with the perfect wildlife viewing platform. And the way the proximity of the Lounge to the deck gives you instant access to spontaneous sightings. Have your camera ready!

## Wellness

A fitness center with elliptical, treadmill, weights, resistance bands; LEXspa treatment room, staffed by wellness specialists.

## Self-Disinfecting Ships

ACT Clean CoatTM is a light-activated, self-disinfecting cleaning process that continuously breaks down viruses, bacteria, mold, and airborne allergens across all ship surfaces. Not only does this create a cleaner, healthier shipboard environment for guests and crew alike, but this non-toxic, chemical-free system also saves more than one million gallons of water each year in our cleaning procedures, and reduces our carbon footprint as well as the amount of plastic and waste in our supply chain.

# 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. **Learn more**

## 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.

## COMBINING OFFERS

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.

## 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 8 or more people. Valid for new bookings only on select departures, subject to availability, not applicable on extensions, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

## INCLUDED IN PRICE

All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer, wine, cocktails, liquors and spirits aboard the ship (except certain premium brands which are available for purchase); hors d'oeuvres, 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, and filtered water; excursions and airport transfers to and from recommended flights, as indicated in the itinerary; exploration tools curated to destination, such as Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks; guidance and company of our leading expedition staff; assistance by the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor; access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; complimentary reusable water bottle; onboard physician consultations; morning stretch classes and 24-hour access to exercise equipment; 24-hour access to lounges, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; basic WiFi, park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

## NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE

Airfare (except flights* when indicated as included); pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); crew gratuities; private transfers; laundry, spa treatments, travel protection plans; and passport, visa, and immigration fees.

*Recommended flight costs include flight(s) that take place during the date range of your trip to transport travelers from one itinerary destination to another. This cost also includes ground transportation, luggage transfer, and airport assistance. If you prefer to arrange your own flights privately, have alternate means of transport, or wish to modify at a later time, please contact an Expedition Specialist at 1.833.400.0831

Additional costs associated with medical services outside onboard physician consultation.

## TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non- refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/

## CANCELLATION POLICY

Review our cancellation policy: https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/