

2016 Summer Cruises with Misty Isles

sponsored by the Cortes Museum!



History and nature await you! Sail or kayak back into an earlier era in Desolation Sound on interpretive voyages aboard the schooner *Misty Isles* with skipper/naturalist Mike Moore who will share a wealth of information and stories. Famous for its spectacular mountains and fjords, much of Desolation Sound is designated as marine park and is abundant with wildlife. As well as natural beauty, it is also the focal point of some of the area's most fascinating maritime history as an anchorage for British and Spanish explorers who first charted this area in the late 1700s. Salish First Nations have left their marks and middens going back thousands of years harvesting and moving about this area seasonally.

NEW THIS YEAR - trips with accommodation on Twin Islands. Twin Islands have always had a sense of intrigue and mystique about them. It is literally, a place fit for royalty. Queen Elizabeth has twice stayed at the lodge. And the islands have always been off-limits to visitors but now owner Mark Torrance has invited *Misty Isles Adventures* to bring visitors here. There are extensive gardens and forest paths to explore. Meals will feature food grown on the islands, and you will be able to learn about the off-grid systems that keep the services on the island running.

Saturday, May 14, 10:30 am - 5 pm, Mitlenatch Island

Full-day outing to explore Mitlenatch Island! At this time of year, the wildflowers will be at their peak, the sea lions growling and territorial displays in full swing at the seabird colonies. Off island participants will travel on the **8:20** am ferry from Campbell River to Quadra Island to link with the **8:50** am ferry to Cortes Island. We advise that vehicles are left in Heriot Bay on Quadra Island and participants walk on to the Cortes ferry to avoid being left behind due to overload traffic. A shuttle service is provided for a donation from the ferry dock in Whaletown to departure from Cortes Bay and back.

Saturday-Sunday, June 11-12, Mitlenatch & Twin Islands

NEW THIS YEAR

This is a royal birding extravaganza! On Saturday June 11th, we will depart Cortes Bay on *Misty Isles* at 10:30 and head to Mitlenatch Island. At this time of year, the wildflowers will be at their peak, the sea lions growling and territorial displays in full swing at the seabird colonies. Later in the afternoon we will voyage to Twin Islands where we will spend the night in a royal lodge. On Sunday, we will check out the wetlands and orchards where forest birds will be in full nesting activity. We will also learn about Twin Islands' fascinating history and the off-grid systems that provide services to the island. After lunch, we will board *Misty Isles* for the trip back to Cortes Bay where we will be met by a shuttle to the Cortes Island Museum and then to the 5:50 ferry off Cortes Island.

\$400 (double occupancy), \$430 (single occupancy), GST included - includes all meals with dinner wine and accommodations.

Sunday, June 19, 3 pm - 10:30 pm, Father's Day Laughing Oyster Dinner Trip

A Father's Day cruise to the Laughing Oyster Restaurant! Departing from Cortes Bay, *Misty Isles* will head through Desolation Sound and into Okeover Inlet on the mainland coast for dinner at the Laughing Oyster Restaurant. Well known for its imaginative and tasty menu, the restaurant features seafood and local fare served up on a covered heated deck with a great view of the water and mountains. After dinner, we will make our way back to Cortes with the sun setting on one of the longest days of the year.

\$95 (GST included) for the cruise. Guests will order and pay for their own meal at the restaurant.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 14-16, Twin Islands Kayaking

NEW THIS YEAR

Spend three days kayaking and exploring Twin Islands and then sleep in a lodge fit for royalty! Twin Islands lie just off the east side of Cortes Island and afford beautiful views of the islands and mountains in Desolation Sound. The surrounding shorelines are a mixture of sandy beaches and steep granite cliffs making this a very varied and fascinating place to paddle. Eagles, seals and shorebirds make their home here while whales and dolphins occasionally swim by. On kayak trips each day, your guides will make the natural and human history of the area come alive with their stories. \$750 (GST included).

Friday, Jul 22, 10:30 am - 5 pm, Desolation Sound

Explore these waters renowned by boaters from all over the world for its fiords, soaring mountains and warm waters. Captain Mike tells stories of the First Nations peoples, the early settlers and explorers. Bring your swim suit – we often stop to test the waters! Off island participants will travel on the 8:30 am ferry from Campbell River to Quadra Island to link with the 9:05 am ferry to Cortes Island. We advise that vehicles are left in Heriot Bay on Quadra Island and participants walk on to the Cortes ferry to avoid being left behind due to overload traffic. A shuttle service is provided for a small donation from the ferry dock in Whaletown to our 10:30 am departure from Cortes Bay.

Friday, Aug 5, 10 am - 5 pm, 'Round Maurelle Island

The tides are right this day for *Misty Isles* to navigate through the famous tidal rapids of Surge Narrows and Hole-in-the-Wall as we circumnavigate Maurelle Island. With its narrow channels and backdrop of mountains, this is a beautiful area to explore. Departing from the Whaletown public dock at 10 am, we will be back in time to catch the last ferry off Cortes Island.

Saturday, Aug 13, 10 am - 5 pm, Desolation Sound

At this time of year, the hundreds of yachts that visit during the summer begin to head home and peace returns to this area of soaring mountains and warm waters. Captain Mike tells stories of the First Nations peoples, the early settlers and explorers. Bring your swim suit – we often stop to test the waters! Off island participants will travel on the **8:20** am ferry from Campbell River to Quadra Island to link with the **8:50** am ferry to Cortes Island. We advise that vehicles are left in Heriot Bay on Quadra Island and participants walk on to the Cortes ferry to avoid being left behind due to overload traffic. A shuttle service is provided for a small donation from the ferry dock in Whaletown to our 10:00 am departure from Cortes Bay.

Wednesday, Thursday, Aug 24-25, Cassel Lake and Twin Islands

NEW THIS YEAR

Beautiful and historic two day trip to Cassel Lake and Twin Islands. On Wednesday, we will board *Misty Isles* and depart Cortes Bay at 10:30 am for the voyage to Teakerne Arm Marine Park. Later in the afternoon *Misty Isles* will take you to Twin Islands for your overnight stay in a lodge that is fit for royalty. On the second day after lunch, we will board *Misty Isles* for the trip back to Cortes Bay where we will be met by a shuttle to the Cortes Island Museum and then to the 5:50 ferry off Cortes Island.

\$400 (double occupancy), \$430 (single occupancy), GST included.

To register or for more information email cimas@twincomm.ca, phone 250-935-6340 or check our website www.cortesmuseum.com

For day trips, participants can choose to bring a picnic lunch or pre-order a vegetarian pizza and salad lunch for \$10 each when you register. We recommend a second pair of shoes or rubber boots, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses and dress for the weather. And don't forget to pack your camera, binoculars and curiosity! Day trips are \$130, two-day trips are \$400 (double occupancy), \$430 (single occupancy), GST included.

From off island you will need to catch a ferry in Campbell River (at **8:20** or **8:30** am depending on the week day) that connects with the first ferry to Cortes Island. Leave your car at Heriot Bay on Quadra and walk onto the Cortes ferry. A shuttle is available by donation from the Cortes ferry to *Misty Isles* departure point and then return to the ferry in late afternoon.