

2017 Summer Cruises with Misty Isles



sponsored by the Cortes Island 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.

Note trips with accommodation on Twin Islands: Twin Islands have long had a sense of mystique about them and are locally known as a place fit for royalty. During the 1930s an American industrialist with contracts in Japan, bought the islands to live out World War II in seclusion. He went to work building a 9-bedroom lodge, stables, orchards and gardens, creating his personal retreat on these 680 acres of private islands.

In the late 1950s Margrav Maximilian Von Baden of Baden Baden, Germany, purchased Twin Islands as a summer retreat for his family. His famous relation, Queen Elizabeth, has stayed on Twin Islands twice. And now the current owners have invited Misty Isles Adventures and the Cortes Museum to bring guests to spend the night and explore the forests, gardens, orchards and the extensive off-grid systems that, up until now, have been out of sight to the public. Guests will sleep in the cozy bedrooms of the historic lodge built of logs harvested on the islands. Meals will feature fresh produce grown in the self sufficient gardens of Twin Islands.

TWO NEW TRIPS THIS YEAR - Fine Dining in Blind Channel Resort and Lund, Refuge Cove & Twin Islands with Jeanette Taylor

May 13/14 (Saturday/Sunday), Mitlenatch & Twin Islands for Mothers' Day <ACCOMMODATION IN TWIN ISLAND LODGE>

Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am & heads for a full day to Mitlenatch Island, coming back to **Twin Islands Lodge** for dinner & overnight. Then an island walk the next morning & leave Twin Islands after lunch for Cortes to tour the Museum, then shuttle to the last ferry.

Cost: \$400 each for couples, \$430 for single occupancy.

June 10 (Saturday), 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, mating gulls and nesting cormorants. Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am, returning about 5 pm for ferry shuttle.

Cost: \$130

June 18 (Sunday), Laughing Oyster Fathers' Day Cruise to Okeover Inlet

Leaves Cortes Bay at 3 pm & returns about 10:30 pm. 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 into sun setting on one of the longest days of the year.

Cost: \$95 for transportation. Guests pay for their own meals at the Laughing Oyster Restaurant.

July 13/14/15 (Thursday/Friday/Saturday), Twin Islands Kayaking <ACCOMMODATION IN TWIN ISLAND LODGE>

Spend 3 days kayaking & exploring around Twin Islands & nearby islands. Kayaks will be launched at 10:30 am at the Cortes Bay Boat Ramp and you paddle to Twin Islands. You will have lunch at Hollyhock on one day. On the final day, weather permitting, you will paddle from Twin Islands around Sutil Point to Smelt Bay to join the fun at Cortes Day. Accommodation at Twin Islands Lodge.

Cost: \$720 – all meals, accommodations & kayak gear included.

July 20/21 (Thursday/Friday), Lund, Refuge Cove & Twin Islands with Jeanette Taylor <NEW THIS YEAR>

A new trip this year! Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am & heads directly to Nancy's Bakery at Lund for lunch while Jeanette tells historical tales. After lunch you will head through Thulin Pass into Desolation Sound for a swing by Galley Bay for more settler stories and perhaps a swim. Then on to Refuge Cove for a poke around the shops & even more stories. The day finishes at Twin Islands Lodge for dinner & overnight, then island walks the next morning. Leave Twin Islands after lunch for Cortes to tour the Museum's Refuge Cove exhibit, then shuttle for the last ferry.

Cost: \$400 each for couples, \$430 for single occupancy. Meals & accommodations included, except lunch at Nancy's Bakery.

July 26 (Wednesday), '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.

Leave Whaletown 10 am, return about 5 pm for shuttle to last ferry.

Cost: \$130

August 5 (Saturday), Desolation Sound

Our classic and most popular trip. Departs Cortes Bay at 10:30 am, returning about 5 pm for shuttle to last ferry.

Cost: \$130

August 22 (Tuesday), Desolation Sound

Another classic and most popular trip. Departs Cortes Bay at 10 am, returning about 5 pm for shuttle to last ferry.

Cost: \$130

August 28/29 (Monday/Tuesday), Blind Channel Dining <NEW THIS YEAR>

Another new trip! Departs Whaletown at 10 am & heads north to catch the ebb tide through Beazley Passage & the Okisollo Rapids into Johnstone Strait. Passing Chatham Point, you'll head into Mayne Passage between the Thurlow Islands to your overnight destination at Blind Channel Resort. Their Cedar Post Restaurant is well known for its superb dining (www.blindchannel.com/fine-dining). There are 3 cabins at the resort, each having 2 bedrooms with double beds. There are also trails leading to some nice old growth trees there. The next day you'll depart by 9 am to catch the morning flood through the Dent & Arran Rapids to return to Whaletown about 5 pm. The tidal rapid areas are frequented by dolphins, porpoises & orcas—you will want to keep your eyes open.

Cost: \$365 each for couples, \$395 for single occupancy. Guests will pay for their own restaurant dinner. Breakfast & 2 lunches provided.

To register for Misty Isles Cruises 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 lunch for \$12 each when registering.

We recommend a second pair of shoes, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses and dress for the weather.

And don't forget to pack your camera, binoculars and curiosity!

From **off island** you will need to catch a ferry in Campbell River (**8:20 am on Saturday or 8:30 am week days**) 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.

New Major Exhibition—Summer 2017

Curator Judith Williams will use paintings she created at Refuge Cove in the 1970s as platforms to investigate the history of Refuge Cove. Ms. Williams will be supported with exhibit design and installation by students taking CIMAS' curatorial training course.

Watch for notification of official opening celebrations around June, 2017.