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B.C.'s largest whale watching company launches 'Ultimate Day Tour' with Salish Sea Dream

VICTORIA - Prince of Whales Whale Watching, British Columbia's largest and most trusted whale watching company, is excited to welcome guests aboard the *Salish Sea Dream* — a sleek new state-of-the-art, eco-friendly \$3.5 million catamaran that will provide a new experience for tourists and locals on the "Ultimate Day Tour."

The custom-built 78-foot catamaran will depart Vancouver each morning, taking guests on a whale-watching tour en route to the B.C. Capital.

In Victoria, there will be many options for sightseeing around the city before travelling by shuttle to the world-famous [Butchart Gardens](#). From the Gardens, guests will take a breathtaking sunset cruise back to downtown Vancouver. The vessel can carry 95 passengers and everyone will have a great view as each person will have a seat inside the cabin and on the deck.

Combining two of Victoria's "must do" activities, the *Salish Sea Dream* will offer whale-watching excursions each afternoon from the Inner Harbour and stopping for a visit to the Butchart Gardens as part of the "Whales and Gardens" packages.

"It's a fantastic trip and it really offers something different," says Prince of Whales Whale Watching owner Alan McGillivray. "We live in such an amazing part of the world and this gives people a front-row seat to see and learn more about the animals that live in and travel through our waters."

Marine naturalists and experienced crew will be onboard and offer informative talks about marine mammals, birds and other wildlife, as well as the ecosystem and key points of interest. It will be an entertaining and educational trip with a focus on conservation.

"Alan and his boats helped pioneer Victoria's whale-watching sector and we are delighted to see Prince of Whales championing a wildlife-centered approach," says Paul Nurse, President and CEO of Tourism Victoria. "It exciting to see these new products being added to the inventory of things to see and do in our destination, and the new vessel is truly something to behold."

"Conservation is absolutely paramount," McGillivray says. "Over the last 20-plus years, we've been lucky to watch southern resident killer whales, which are endangered in both Canada and the U.S., and we've become world leaders in designing our own regulations to make sure we're being very careful and courteous. We also talk to our guests about the importance of clean water, the salmon run and what's coming out of rivers."

Learn more at PrinceofWhales.com

The Salish Sea Dream's Ultimate Day Tour departs downtown Vancouver at 8:30 a.m. from late May to late September and arrives in Victoria at 12:30 p.m. Passengers take a shuttle to Butchart Gardens where the *Salish Sea Dream* will meet them at 4.30 p.m. and depart for a sunset cruise, arriving in Vancouver at 7 p.m. Adult fare, including garden entry, is \$310.

The Salish Sea Dream's Whales & Gardens Package departs downtown Victoria at 1:15 p.m. and arrives at Butchart Gardens at 4:15 p.m. Return shuttles run from 6:15 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Adult fare, including garden entry, is \$150.

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