

## **ST. LAWRENCE RIVER CRUISE/TOUR** **Including 5 nights on the Canadian Express Ottawa to Kingston** ***AUGUST 30 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2019***

**\$6750 per person based on 2 people sharing a room**

### ***TOUR INCLUDES:***

- \*Transportation from Nelson, Castlegar and Trail to Kelowna return
- \*Overnight Accommodation in Kelowna at Comfort Suites
- \*Dinner in Kelowna
- \*Breakfast at Comfort Suites
- \*Transportation from Comfort Suites to Airport
- \*Flights from Kelowna to Ottawa/ Return from Toronto to Kelowna
- \*Baggage for flights
- \*Current air taxes, fees and fuel surcharges
- \*Transportation from Ottawa Airport to Hotel
- \*3 nights at Lord Elgin Hotel in Ottawa
- \*25 meals, 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 10 Dinners
- \*Transportation from Ottawa to Cruise Ship
- \*City Tour of Ottawa with local guide
- \*Royal Canadian Mint
- \*Rideau Canal Cruise
- \*Murder Mystery Dinner & Show (Private)
- \*Laurier House
- \*Rideau Hall Tour
- \*Byward Market free time
- \*Canadian Museum of History
- \*Cruise package with St. Lawrence Cruise lines—Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (5 nights Ottawa to Kingston)
- \*Fort Henry Tour
- \*Bellevue House
- \*Gratuities included for meal service, Ottawa Guide, Kingston Guide and Coach Drivers
- \*Luggage handling at all hotels and ship excluding Comfort Suites in Kelowna
- \*Accommodation 1 night Holiday Inn Waterfront in Kingston

\*Accommodation 1 night Sheraton Gateway in Toronto in Terminal

\*Transfer from Kingston to Toronto

\*Tour Escort

\*1000 Islands Tower

\*St. Lawrence Seaway Lock System

\*The Thousand Islands

\*Guided Motor Coach Tour of Montreal

\*Fort Wellington National Historic Site

\*Omega Animal Wilderness Park

\*Upper Canada Village

\*Canadian Aviation and Space Museum

THE CANADIAN EMPRESS was launched in 1981. The year 1908 was chosen as a design and décor theme so that the vessel that would integrate well with the history of the St. Lawrence River. The Canadian Empress is 33 metres long with a 9 metre beam and a draft of just 1.5 metres. She carries only 66 passengers in 32 cabins. There are 3 decks. The St. Lawrence is the lowest and has most of the cabins and the gift shop. Ottawa Deck has 8 cabins, the Grand Saloon Lounge, and Dining Room, and forward and aft outdoor sitting areas. The sundeck has lots of outdoor seating. Most cabins have single beds (four have a double bed) toilet, shower, sink, and window(s). Cabins are very compact compared to an ocean ship cruise, typically about 8 square metres. There is daily maid service. You will likely spend most daylight time away from your cabin in the Grand Saloon or on deck enjoying the scenery. Nightly entertainment is provided, usually by a local group or person, and can include music, singing or magic.

The ship docks most nights in a community along the St. Lawrence River, so you can go ashore at your leisure and explore the area. Although the ship enters the USA several times, it does not dock there, so no passport is needed for the whole trip.

Three meals a day plus afternoon tea and in-between treats are served in the Grand Saloon. There are usually 2 entrees offered with Dinner. The menus include fresh in-season locally-produced fruits and vegetables, and bread may come from the pioneer ovens at Upper Canada Village. The bar is well stocked with wine, beer and liquor at reasonable prices. Coffee and tea are available 24 hours a day.

\*All Shore Excursions are included

\*Light activity including short distances to walk during the shore excursions. There is no elevator on the ship. No matter what deck you are on, expect to use some stairs.

### The Thousand Islands

With each nautical mile, nature's northern masterpiece unfolds. Within 1 80-km stretch of the mighty St. Lawrence River, there are no less than 1870 islands. In these "1000" islands, birthplace of the famous 1000 Islands Dressing, we explore intricate river channels, sumptuous greenery, mysterious coves, and nooks and crannies veiled in folklore. We sail past summer cottages, opulent mansions, and even 2 castles, Boldt and Singer. We cruise under several bridges including the multiple spans of the Thousand Islands Bridge and ride the fast elevator to the fabulous view atop the 10-storey high 1000 Islands Tower.

### The St. Lawrence Seaway

The St. Lawrence Seaway was one of the most ambitious engineering feats of the last century. The objectives were to increase the size of the St. Lawrence River shipping channel and generate hydro-electric power for Ontario, Quebec, and New York State. Entire villages were relocated to higher ground, utilizing the largest moving and construction equipment in the world. As the temporary coffer dams were blown on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1958, people watched with mixed emotions. Slowly rising water covered familiar land forever. A highlight of our cruise is the opportunity to pass thru 7 locks between Kingston and Montreal, experiencing an overall change in water level of 75 metres. All locks on the Seaway are similar in size 233 metres long, 24.5 metres wide and 9 metres deep over the sill. A lock fills with about 91 million litres of water in just 7 to 10 minutes. The ship takes about 45 minutes to go thru a lock.

### **August 30th**

Today we depart the Kootenay's by coach and make our way over to Kelowna. We will check into our hotel, get settled and then out for Dinner. After Dinner back to the hotel for the rest of the evening.

### **August 31st**

This morning we catch our flight from Kelowna to Ottawa. A coach will be transporting us from the hotel over to the airport. When we arrive in Ottawa a coach will be waiting to take us off to our hotel the Lord Elgin for the next 3 nights. After we check in we will be having a group dinner right here in the hotel.

### **September 1st**

This morning after breakfast we start out with a City Tour of Ottawa followed by a light lunch. This afternoon will be a surprise for you and then we will be off for dinner near our hotel. The rest of your evening is free.

### **September 2nd**

Today after breakfast we are off to a tour of the Royal Canadian Mint followed by a Rideau Canal Cruise. This afternoon is yours to explore Ottawa on your own. This evening we are off to see a private Murder Mystery Dinner & Show. After the show we make our way back to the hotel.

### **September 3rd**

Today after breakfast we are to Laurier House for a tour followed by a Rideau Hall tour. Then we are off to the Byward Market for lunch on your own and shopping. Next stop is the Canadian Museum of History and then off to board the Canadian Empress! The Captain's welcome reception is followed by dinner. Welcome aboard!

### **September 4th 5th 6th 7th**

Our overnight ports for this cruise are Ottawa, Carillon Locks, Montreal (Lachine), Upper Canada Village and Brockville

These are some of our highlights along the way!

This cruise will take you to witness the Island Paradise and natural man-made charm of the archipelago. The intimate size of the Canadian Empress allows her to get up-close and present you with an unprecedented look of the region.

The 1000 Islands Tower is a unique attraction and will show you the best of what the area has to offer. From its observation desk you can see for a radius of about 40 miles – quite a panoramic vista from 400 Metres above the St. Lawrence River.

#### BROCKVILLE MUSEUM

The Brockville Museum is a historical landmark. The land on which the house stands was first deeded to Daniel Jones in 1790, one of the area's early settlers. In 1824 the house was sold to Isaac Beecher owned the house until 1870. It was then sold in 1897 to the Central Canada Coal Company until 1976 when the city of Brockville and the Historical Society purchased the property. In June 1981, the Beecher House doors opened to the public.

#### CARILLON LOCK

The lock at the Carillon Lock and Power Station is an impressive piece of engineering. Built between 1959 and 1964 this complex lock is a power station, powerhouse-dam and navigation lock in one. The lock alone is 188 feet long and 45 feet wide. Downstream, on the Montreal side, the chamber of the lock is closed by a massive drop-gate, which is 67 feet high and 45 feet wide. It weighs more than 182 tons. The average flow rate at Carillon is 2,000 cubic metres of water per second. To put that into perspective, if the river was carrying gasoline rather than water it could fill 40,000 automobiles per second!

#### CUMBERLAND

The Cumberland Heritage Village Museum is an historic village situated on a 100 acre site which is distinctive in its portrayal of the ways in which industrialization and mechanization were changing everyone's way of life. It is committed to preserving the rich architectural heritage of the early 1900's.

#### FORT WELLINGTON

The first Fort Wellington was built during the war of 1812 high above the St. Lawrence River at Prescott. The second, still standing today, was built as a result of the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837-38. Although not very large it is an excellent example of the French style of military engineering which became popular in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Today, Fort Wellington is a national historic site, and is now administered by Parks Canada.

#### FULFORD PLACE MANSION

Home to Senator George T. Fulford and family between 1900 and 1987. Through the successful marketing of "Pink Pills for Pale People", Fulford was able to purchase 14 acres of waterfront property in Brockville, Ontario and commissioned an American Architect to design a home capable of reflecting his success. The Fulford family donated the Mansion and its opulent décor to the Ontario Heritage Foundation in 1991. Contained within this 35 room Mansion is a diverse and elegant collection of original furnishings.

#### FUR TRADE MUSEUM

Located to the west of the Island of Montreal, the Fur Trade Museum at Lachine is a testimony to the culmination of the fur industry in the Montreal region in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The museum building, an old stone warehouse, dates from 1803.

#### MONTREAL SIGHTSEEING

A complete City tour, taking in many points of interest, including the Notre Dame Basilica and St. Joseph's Oratory. Atop of Mount-Royal, it is one of the world's most visited shrines. You will also see the French Quarter, McGill University and a photo opportunity from Mt. Royal offering a striking view of the downtown area and the St. Lawrence River.

#### MOSES-SAUNDERS POWER DAM

This is a dam on the St. Lawrence River straddling the border between the USA and Canada. It is located in between Massena in New York and Cornwall in Ontario. Constructed between 1954 and 1958, the dam created Lake St. Lawrence and is part of a larger project called the St. Lawrence Seaway. Aside from providing significant amounts of renewable power, the dam regulates the St. Lawrence River and affords passage for the navigation of large vessels.

#### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RAILROADING

Exporail, the Canadian Railroad Museum: maintains the largest collection of railway equipment in Canada with over 140 pieces of rolling stock.

#### NOTRE DAME DU CAP SHRINE

The grounds are beautiful. They feature a lake with an island in the middle. The lake is about the size of a football field and the island is always dressed in flowers.

#### OMEGA PARK

Nature is an infinite source of inspiration. A visit to Omega Park encourages the observation of earth and nature and all its wonder. In the safety of your utility bus, you will explore 10 kilometers of the beautiful natural landscape coming face to face with many species of Canada's wild animals including wolf, bear, moose, elk and buffalo to name a few.

#### SEAWAY LOCKS

The Iroquois lock is different than the other locks on the Seaway in that the water is admitted by partially opening the upper or lower lock face. The other six locks are filled and emptied through sluices at the bottom of the lock.

#### SMYTH'S APPLE ORCHARD

This is a family run business that had its beginning in the mid 1800's. On more than 120 acres and boasting more than 30,000 trees, you can safely say this family knows its apples. It is located at historical Dundela, Ontario, Canada where 2 monuments commemorate John McIntosh who discovered an apple tree in his backyard. Through careful attendance and

grafting by his son Allen the native apple grew in popularity and was appropriately named the McIntosh Red. McIntosh orchards throughout the world originated from this single tree.

## UPPER CANADA VILLAGE

Upper Canada Village – parts of it formed with buildings moved from flooded lands – is a living museum community that recreates the life, work and development of the early settlements along the upper St. Lawrence River valley. It is representative of the rural eastern and Upper Canada from 1784 to 1867 when agriculture was fundamental to the province's existence.

### **September 8th**

Today we depart the ship in Kingston Ontario. We will have a tour of Fort Henry and then Dinner at the Battery Bistro. Then we are off to our overnight hotel at the Holiday Inn Waterfront. The rest of your evening is free.

### **September 9th**

After breakfast we will have an historical tour of Kingston with a local guide. You will have free time to explore and have lunch on your own then off to Bellevue House NHS. We then make our way to Toronto where we will be staying at the Sheraton Gateway hotel right in the airport.

Tonight is our farewell dinner.

### **September 10th**

This morning we fly home from Toronto to Kelowna where our coach will be waiting for us. We will then be off for an early lunch and then make our way home.

## **TOUR CONDITIONS:**

\*A deposit of \$2500 is due at time of booking and is 100% non-refundable. Final payment is due on or before May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and is also 100% non-refundable.

\*Cancellation and Medical Insurance is highly recommended and is quoted on an individual basis.



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