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SUMMER SCHEDULE STARTS SOON AT BC FERRIES
Crews are gearing up to welcome hundreds of thousands of customers

VICTORIA –This week, BC Ferries begins its summer schedule with extra sailings on the Metro Vancouver – Vancouver Island and Metro Vancouver – Sunshine Coast routes, as well as additional service on the Inter-Island routes to ensure smooth sailing for summer holiday travellers. Seasonal adjustments to sailing times will be in effect on many routes as schedules are adapted to busy summer traffic levels.

“In response to this summer likely being one of the busiest peak seasons we’ve seen in years, we’ve added extra sailings and extra staff, as well as prepared our terminals to ensure our customers have a great travel experience with BC Ferries,” said Corrine Storey, BC Ferries’ Vice President of Customer Services. “We’ve reduced our seven-day advance reservation fee to \$10 to help our customers reserve in advance so they get on their sailing of choice.”

Specifics of added capacity include:

- Tsawwassen – Swartz Bay route, the busiest route in the fleet, will be serviced by four vessels providing up to 32 sailings per day including 6 am departures Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays except holiday Mondays and Aug. 3
- Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay route will be serviced by three ships that will deliver up to 22 sailings per day
- Tsawwassen – Duke Point route, two vessels will offer 16 sailings per day, seven days per week
- Horseshoe Bay – Langdale route includes an additional vessel, so the schedule offers 16 sailings Mondays to Thursdays and up to 24 sailings Thursdays through Mondays

BC Ferries has also introduced two fare promotions this summer to encourage customers to try less busy sailing times.

- From now until October 1, customers with private passenger vehicles longer than 20 feet (6.1 metres) will pay only \$3.25 per additional foot (regularly \$6.50) on select sailings on the Tsawwassen – Swartz Bay and the Tsawwassen – Duke Point routes with the “Size up the Savings” promotion.
- Until September 15, passenger vehicle and driver fares are available at \$39, \$49 and \$59 on select morning and evening sailings between Tsawwassen – Swartz Bay, Tsawwassen – Duke

Point, Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay and at \$39 return-trip between Horseshoe Bay – Langdale with the “Sunrise and Sunset Savings” promotion.

“The Sunrise and Sunset Savings promotion offers summer travellers great discounts on less crowded sailings, and gives customers a choice of fare price if they have flexibility with the time-of-day they choose to travel,” said Storey.

Also this summer, BC Ferries will once again offer the Coastal Naturalist program in partnership with Parks Canada. You will find the Coastal Naturalists on select sailings through Labour Day to educate and entertain locals and tourists with engaging 20-minute presentations about B.C.’s wildlife, marine life, geography, culture and history.

New vessels are also part of the customer experience on BC Ferries this summer. Salish Orca entered service last month on the Comox – Powell River route and Salish Eagle will commence service tomorrow, providing extra capacity for the Southern Gulf Islands from Tsawwassen. These new ships operate on clean natural gas, which significantly reduces emissions as well as operating costs. These ships feature modern guest amenities, great food offerings and swift service to coastal destinations.

“BC Ferries wants to get you on your way safely and quickly, so we ask that customers travelling in vehicles with reservations to inform the ticket agent that they have a reservation when they drive up to the booth,” said Storey. “This self-identification helps keep the ticketing process running smoothly.”

More than 21 million passengers sailed with BC Ferries last year, with the summer season being the busiest by far. For schedule details, reservations and information about BC Ferries Vacations, visit bcferries.com.

Under contract to the Province of British Columbia, BC Ferries is the service provider responsible for the delivery of safe, efficient and dependable ferry service along coastal British Columbia.

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