

Media Advisory

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BC FERRIES ADDS 28 SAILINGS FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY WEEKEND AND HONOURS MILITARY PERSONNEL AND SENIORS WITH FREE PASSENGER TRAVEL

VICTORIA – BC Ferries is adding extra sailings for the upcoming Remembrance Day weekend. Twenty-four extra sailings are scheduled on the Tsawwassen (Vancouver) – Swartz Bay (Victoria) route. Two extra round trips have also been added to the Horseshoe Bay (West Vancouver) – Departure Bay (Nanaimo) route.

New this year, on Remembrance Day, Monday, November 11, active, reserve and retired military personnel as well as cadets will receive complimentary travel in recognition of their service. The free fare applies to passenger fares with the presentation of official Canadian military identification or travelling in uniform.

British Columbia's senior citizens will also be able to travel for free on BC Ferries on Remembrance Day with the presentation of a BC Services Card, BC Driver's License, BC Identification Card or Birth Certificate. Throughout the year, complimentary travel is offered to B.C. seniors from Monday through Thursday except on holidays. This Remembrance Day, BC Ferries is extending the seniors' free fare to the holiday Monday.

BC Ferries notes that these free fares are not applicable on the Inside Passage, Haida Gwaii and Central Coast Connector routes.

All Canadian flags on BC Ferries' vessels will fly at half-mast for Remembrance Day in respect of our veterans and active military personnel. Two minutes of silence will also occur at 11:00 a.m. on the vessels and at terminals.

Long Weekend Travel Tips

- Reserve in advance Make a vehicle reservation early to secure a spot on the sailing time of your choice. Customers with flexibility can travel at off-peak times to avoid the rush. Reserve online at bcferries.com. Reserved customers do not have sailing waits.
- Arrive early Customers with reservations should plan to arrive at the terminal 45-60 minutes before their scheduled departure. Walk-on passengers should arrive 45 minutes before their anticipated sailing. Please refer to current conditions and plan accordingly.

- Check-in smoothly Have your booking reference number ready upon arrival at the ticket booth to expedite the check-in process if you have made a reservation.
- Be prepared for sailing waits At popular times, customers travelling without a vehicle reservation may experience sailing waits. The best times to travel are posted on the <u>Travel Planning pages</u> at <u>bcferries.com</u>.

Did you know? On reservable routes, a sailing wait only applies to people without reservations, when a vessel has reached capacity. Customers who make reservations are guaranteed to be on their sailing of choice. Reserved traffic moves smoothly.

- Departure Bay terminal is usually more popular than Duke Point terminal. Customers returning to Metro Vancouver from the Nanaimo area may consider travelling via Duke Point, to avoid the rush often experienced at Departure Bay.
- Consider parking options Parking lots at the major terminals fill up quickly on long weekends. If possible, choose public transit or arrange to be dropped off at the terminal to avoid traffic congestion. When parking lots fill up, BC Ferries informs customers via Twitter @BCFerries and on the website.
- Ride-share, if possible BC Ferries encourages customers to carpool or travel as a foot passenger. Vehicle deck space can fill up quickly and will be sold out at popular travel times.

For full schedule information, current conditions and reservations, please visit <u>bcferries.com</u>. For the most up-to-date travel information, follow @BCFerries on Twitter.

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