Sunshine Coast Circle Tour (4 Days)

The **Sunshine Coast** is on Vancouver's doorstep, only 40 minutes away by Ferry.

Stretching along the northeast shores of the Strait of Georgia from Gibsons to Powell River and Desolation Sound, the **Sunshine Coast** provides a natural backdrop for you to discover what beautiful secrets Nature has conjured up. With its coastal mountain range, old growth forests, lakes and inlets, each stop along the Sunshine Coast offers a unique sense of place, featuring local history, cultural heritage and natural attractions. It’s a place where the pace is slow, the scenery is breathtaking and the people are friendly.

**Four Day Dream Trip**

**Day One**  
Travel from **Vancouver** to **Gibsons** aboard **BC Ferries**

**BC Ferries**, is known for showcasing BC's spectacular scenery and proud maritime history. With a fleet of 36 vessels that make up to 47 ports of call along the diverse communities on the BC coast, BC Ferries is the primary provider of ferry service in the province and plays a vital role in the region’s economy. From maintaining a constant flow of goods and services, to linking families and friends, to attracting tourists to many unique and beautiful destinations, BC Ferries is a key player in the development of life on BC's coast.

**Leisurely drive** along the scenic coastal Highway 101 exploring the small towns along the way (Roberts Creek, Sechelt, Secret Cove, Pender Harbour)
Sunshine Coast Outdoor Adventures – Your choice!

- Hiking
- A marine tour
- Shopping for unique gifts or beautiful local art
- Kayaking or Canoeing
- Enjoying a luxurious massage in peaceful surroundings
- World-class Diving
- Cross-country Skiing (winter)

Overnight on the Sunshine Coast in Oceanside Accommodation

Day Two  Continue your coastal exploration as you take the 40 minute BC Ferry ride from Earl’s Cove to Saltery Bay. Continue on Highway 101 right to its end if you wish (Lund is 50 km from Powell River). Savory Island is a 10 minute water taxi ride from Lund and is known as “the Hawaii of the north”

Your choice of an Outdoor Adventure

Overnight in the Powell River area

Day Three  Travel from Powell River to Comox aboard BC Ferries

Welcome to the Comox Valley - Home of Mount Washington Alpine Resort, a world class training facility for 2010 elite winter competitors, from more than 10 countries.

Nestled between the Beaufort Mountains and the Strait of Georgia on the eastern coast of Vancouver Island, the Comox Valley is a collection of rolling mountains, delicate alpine meadows, rushing rivers, pristine lakes, lush forests, fertile farms, incredible beaches and more than 40 green parks. Four major museums, live theatre, a dynamic music scene, an active artist community and year round cultural festivals and events are just a few of the many attractions the Comox Valley has to offer. Gourmet cuisine, unique shopping experiences, galleries and eclectic coffee and tea shops line the streets of the Comox Valley’s urban centers.

Travel to Qualicum Beach and Parksville (45 min. drive)

Qualicum Beach is a charming, friendly and laidback community right beside Parksville. The local population includes more than its share of unique artisans, gardeners and active, healthy locals and retirees. Qualicum Beach has a quaint village atmosphere, mild climate, a fabulous beach and shoreline, scenic beauty and wealth of recreational activities.

Parksville is a definitive British Columbia summer town, just a half hour drive north of Nanaimo’s ferry terminals. It’s home to 11,000 relaxes, friendly, lifestyle-oriented residents who enjoy all the amenities of town life – a diverse selection of good dining spots, a year round calendar of a remarkable 140 festivals and events, a lively arts scene and everyday quality time at Parksville Community Park (with its sports field, skate park, beach and boardwalk). Rathrevor Beach Provincial Park and the Englishman River Estuary are natural sanctuaries minutes from city centre.
Comox Valley, Qualicum, Parksville Activities – Your choice!

- Cave Tour
- Hiking in one of the area’s dozen parks
- Ocean Kayaking
- Golf
- Boutique Shopping
- Culinary Tasting
- Spa
- Mountain Biking
- Skiing or Snowboarding (December to April)

Overnight in Oceanside Accommodation

Day Four  Travel to Nanaimo (30 minute drive)

Nanaimo is officially known as the Harbour City for good reason. Stretched like a long, lean finger along the east coast of south-central Vancouver Island, British Columbia’s sixth-largest city gets its identity, history and a wealth of recreation from a lovely, island-sheltered harbour right in the heart of town. Hiking, boating, kayaking, biking and world-class scuba diving and snorkelling are everyday activities at the bustling waterfront, as seaplanes take flight from sparkling blue waters.

Travel from Nanaimo back to Vancouver aboard BC Ferries
Tourism Vancouver Island - Agent of Tourism British Columbia
501 – 65 Front Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5H9, Phone: 250-754-3500
www.vancouverisland.travel

Contact:
Karen Bonell, 2010 & Beyond Media Coordinator
Mobile: 250-792-3733, karen@tourismvi.ca
Lana Kingston, Regional Media Relations Representative
Phone: 250-740-1213, Mobile: 250-739-9087, lana@tourismvi.ca

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR 2010 DREAM TRIP!

Photo credit: Tourism BC/Tom Ryan, ChrisCheadle.com/Tourism Vancouver Island