



Sam Houston State University
Alumni Association



Traveling Bearkats presents

Christmas Season in Victoria & Vancouver

Featuring 3-Nights at the Fairmont Empress Hotel in Victoria
and 3-Nights at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

7 Days **December 3 - 9, 2026**



**BOOKING
DISCOUNT!**

Save \$100 Per Person
\$200 Per Couple*

*See Reservation Info for
Booking Discount details

**NO RISK DEPOSIT
NO CHANGE FEES**

Book Now and your Deposit is
Risk Free with No Change Fees
until Final Payment Due Date!
See Res Form for details ***

Dear Sam Houston Alumni and Friends,

We are excited to invite you to a truly enchanting holiday experience as we explore the beauty of Vancouver and Victoria during the festive season. Whether you've visited these cities before or this is your first time, this tour promises a magical Christmas experience filled with stunning views, festive markets, and luxurious accommodations.

On this special holiday getaway, you'll stay at the iconic Fairmont Hotel Vancouver and the Fairmont Empress Hotel in Victoria (single bedded rooms only), both renowned for their charm and elegance. While in Vancouver, you will enjoy a panoramic city tour including Stanley Park, Chinatown and Gastown. Next, glide high above towering Douglas firs on the breathtaking Grouse Mountain Skyride, offering panoramic views of the city, ocean, and snow-capped mountains. Discover and explore the delightful Vancouver Christmas Market, where you can enjoy traditional European-style holiday treats, sip delicious warm Gluhwein and browse the artisan booths full of decorations and holiday gifts.

Travel to Vancouver Island on the BC Ferry to visit the world-famous Butchart Gardens, which are beautifully decorated for the season with sparkling lights and festive displays. Next, check in to the famous Fairmont Empress Hotel in Victoria, one of the 21 most iconic hotels in the world. Experience the timeless tradition of "High Tea" at the Fairmont Empress, a cherished custom since the hotel opened in 1908. You will also take in the holiday magic while visiting Victoria Christmas Market and Fair featuring unique crafts from local artisans and holiday treats. In the evening enjoy a panoramic Victoria Christmas Light Tour, to see famous landmarks around the city lit up spectacularly for the holiday season. While in Victoria and at the Empress hotel, you'll have a day to enjoy this great city and the amenities of this amazing hotel and at your own pace. Throughout the tour, you will be escorted by a professional Tour Director, and travel will be seamless. From the moment you arrive in Vancouver to your final farewell dinner, every detail has been carefully arranged to ensure a memorable and festive holiday experience.

We hope you will join us for this special holiday journey to experience the best of Vancouver and Victoria dressed in their Christmas finest. Spaces are limited, so be sure to reserve your spot soon!

Cheers,

Charlie Vienne

Charlie Vienne
Associate VP for Alumni Relations & Annual Giving
Executive Director of the SHSU Alumni Association





7 Days **December 3 - 9, 2026**

Highlights

- 3 Nights Victoria Fairmont Empress Hotel
- 3 Nights Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
- Vancouver Christmas Market
- Vancouver City Tour
- Grouse Mountain Skyride
- VanDusen Festival of Lights
- Roundtrip BC Ferry to Victoria
- Victoria City Tour
- Butchart Gardens
- Royal British Columbia Museum
- "High Tea" at the Fairmont Empress Hotel
- Victoria Christmas Market

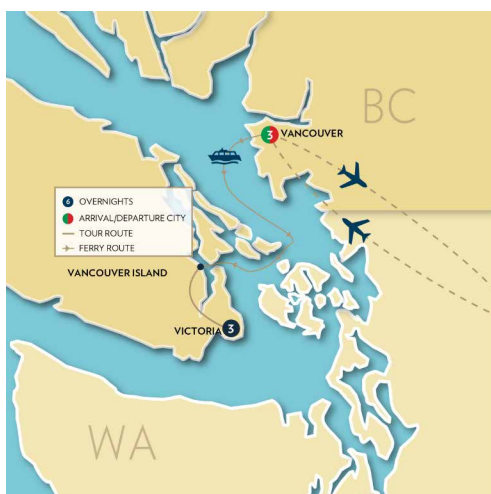
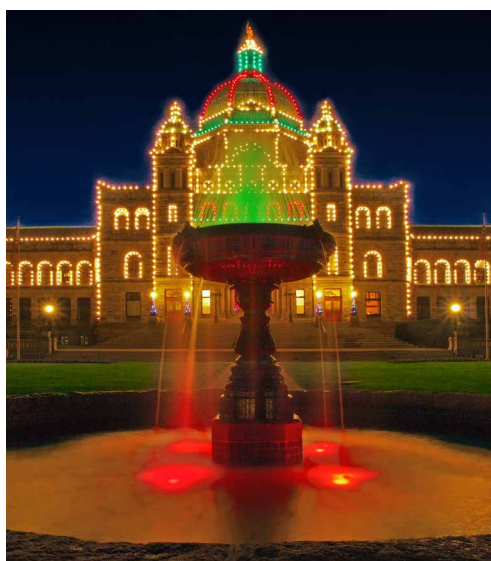
Inclusions

- Roundtrip Airfare** - IAH
- Air Taxes, Fuel, Fees
- 6 Nights Hotel Accommodations***
- 9 Meals: 6 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch & 2 Dinners
- Two Beer & Wine Receptions
- Professional Tour Director
- Motorcoach Transportation
- Admissions per Itinerary
- Comprehensive Sightseeing
- Baggage Handling at Hotels
- Hotel Transfers

Accommodations***

- 2 Nights Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
- 3 Nights Fairmont Empress Hotel, Victoria
- 1 Night Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

On some dates alternate hotels may be used



Tour Rates

Booking Discount*:	\$5149 pp double
Regular Rate:	\$5249 pp double
Single Supplement:	+\$1500

*See Reservation Info for Booking Discount details

***IMPORTANT ROOM NOTE

Due to planned renovations at the Empress 2 bedded rooms will NOT be available. All rooms contracted for 2026 are single bedded rooms. Hotels, Itinerary and Inclusions are subject to change.

****Other gateways are available. For more information and pricing, please call Premier World Discovery at 877-953-8687.**



DAY 1: ARRIVE VANCOUVER

Arrive in the seaport city of Vancouver, the crown jewel of Western Canada. Considered one of the most beautiful cities in North America. Vancouver dazzles during the Christmas holiday season along with views of the Pacific Ocean, majestic mountains and a glittering skyline. Meet your Tour Director and transfer to the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, known as the *'Castle in the City'* and has been the pinnacle of elegance since its debut in 1939. Check-in for a two-night stay. Enjoy a Beer & Wine Reception this evening followed by a Welcome Dinner.

⊗ (D) Overnight: **Vancouver**

DAY 2: VANCOUVER - CHRISTMAS MARKET

This morning enjoy a panoramic **Vancouver City Tour** including Stanley Park, famous for its ancient Indian totem poles, Chinatown and Gastown. Next, enjoy a **Grouse Mountain Skyride**. Glide high above towering Douglas firs, breathtaking views of the city of Vancouver, sparkling Pacific Ocean, Gulf Islands, and snowy peaks unfold as you journey up the mountainside. North America's 100-person tramway is your gateway to the majestic nature of The Peak of Vancouver. This afternoon discover Vancouver's European-German themed **Christmas Market Holiday Festival**. The **Shipyards Christmas Market** is located in the lively waterfront area of Vancouver offering holiday cheer around every corner. Free time to browse the market with a variety of European-style artisan booths full of decorations, holiday gifts and unique handicrafts. Enjoy gourmet food, festive sweets and authentic German drinks such as the endless supply of delicious warm **Gluhwein**! Enjoy this evening at your leisure to explore this beautiful city at your own pace.

⊗ (B,D) Overnight: **Vancouver**

DAY 3: VANCOUVER - VICTORIA

Transfer to Tsawwassen and board the **BC Ferry** for **Vancouver Island**. Sit back and relax as you enjoy a scenic cruise across the Strait of Georgia. Arrive in Swartz Bay and travel by motorcoach to **Victoria**, the capital of British Columbia. Check into the famous **Fairmont Empress Hotel** for a three night stay and always beautifully decorated for the Christmas season. The Fairmont Empress is famed as Canada's *'Castle on the Coast'* and listed as *"one of the 21 most iconic hotels in the world"*. The Empress is an award-winning hotel and National Historic Site dating to 1908. With unparalleled views over the inner harbor, this historic hotel is where contemporary convenience meets iconic luxury and five-star service meets classic British styling. Later, enjoy a visit to the world famous **Butchart Gardens** and stroll among fifty-five acres of wonderful displays. While the flowers sleep in the winter, the gardens come to life during the holiday season with colorful displays of lights, including scenes depicting the **Twelve Days of Christmas**. Bundle up and stroll through the beautiful Christmas displays, sing along to the sounds of the season with traditional Carolers or listen to the festive brass. Maybe stop in at the coffee shop to warm up with a hot chocolate and gingerbread by the fire.

⊗ (B) Overnight: **Victoria**

DAY 4: VICTORIA - HIGH TEA

Today enjoy a **Victoria City Tour** featuring the Inner Harbor and the imposing Parliament Building constructed in 1897 and a city filled with Victorian charm. Visit the **Royal British Columbia Museum**. Through its unique galleries, the museum showcases the human and natural history of British Columbia. Enjoy *"High Tea and lunch"* at the Fairmont Empress, a tradition that commenced when the hotel opened in 1908. This isn't just any tea, but a Christmas-themed extravaganza with seasonal treats and delicacies. Sip the original blend of *"The Empress tea"*, an exceptional experience for everyone. Later visit a **Victoria Christmas Market and Fair**. Browse the charming stalls offering unique crafts, local artisan products and holiday treats. This evening enjoy a panoramic **Victoria Christmas Lights Tour** around the city. See famous landmarks such as the Parliament Buildings and more that are lit up spectacularly for the holiday season.

⊗ (B,L) Overnight: **Victoria**

DAY 5: VICTORIA AS YOU WISH

The entire day is at leisure relax, explore Victoria as you wish or enjoy the amenities of the Empress Hotel. Swim in the indoor pool or enjoy a day at the Willow Stream Spa. Perhaps a visit to the historic Empress Hotel Library for quiet time with a book or enjoy an exquisite bar and lounge offering stunning views over the Inner Harbor or a warm spot around a cozy fireplace. Be sure to visit the Festival of Trees located at the Bay Centre. The Biosphere Certified Bay Centre is a "must shop" located in the heart of downtown Victoria's shopping district. The festival of trees traditionally has over eighty Christmas trees on display during the holiday season. Enjoy a **Beer & Wine Reception** this evening.

⊗ (B) Overnight: **Victoria**

DAY 6: VICTORIA - BC FERRY - VANCOUVER

This morning board the BC Ferry and cruise through the Gulf Islands enroute to Vancouver. Stop for another visit to the **Vancouver Shipyards Christmas Market** with free time to stroll at your leisure and shop for souvenirs. Check into the Fairmont Vancouver Hotel for an overnight stay. Later step into a botanical holiday wonderland at **VanDusen Festival of Lights**. Explore fifteen-acres adorned with over one million twinkling lights, featuring a new interactive installation, dancing lights, themed light areas and a display inspired by the Great Bear Rainforest of BC. This evening enjoy a **Farewell Dinner** with your traveling companions.

⊗ (B,D) Overnight: **Vancouver**

DAY 7: VANCOUVER - FLIGHT HOME

Transfer to the Vancouver Airport to board your flight home with wonderful memories of the Christmas Season in Victoria & Vancouver experience.

⊗ (B)

Reservation Information

DEPOSIT & FINAL PAYMENT

Deposit of \$400 per person is due with Reservation Form to secure reservations.
Final Payment Due Date is 90 days prior to departure.

*BOOKING DISCOUNT

Make your Final Payment by check prior to the Final Payment Due Date
& receive **\$200 per couple/\$100 per person Booking Discount!**

*Land Only/Own Air bookings receive \$100 per couple/\$50 per person Booking Discount

- Initial Deposit can be made by check or credit card to be eligible.
- Payments after Initial Deposit are considered part of Final Payment & must be made by check.

ONLINE BOOKING OPTION - Save time, postage & secure your seat for this group departure.

Simply type <https://res.premierworlddiscovery.com> into your web browser & use the Booking Number (Web Code) from this flyer to make your Deposit online in just a few minutes.
No need to submit a Reservation Form if booking online.

Reservation Form

Christmas Season in Victoria & Vancouver

December 3 - 9, 2026

Booking #206740 (Web Code)

Make Checks Payable to:

Premier World Discovery

Fax, Mail or Email Form to:

Sam Houston State University Traveling Bearkats

c/o Premier World Discovery

1650 So. Pacific Coast Hwy., Suite 202

Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Phone: 877.953.8687 Fax: 310.372.0637

Email: bookings@pwd.travel

Website: <https://res.premierworlddiscovery.com>

Enclosed find a Deposit in the amount of \$ _____ (\$400 per person) to secure reservations for _____ # of people.

Premier's Travel Protection Plan (TPP): (TPP must be purchased with initial deposit)

☐ Yes, I (we) wish to purchase travel protection (TPP)

☐ No, I (we) decline travel protection (TPP)

Enclosed find payment in the amount of \$ _____ (\$499 per person) to secure the Premier's Travel Protection Plan (TPP).

Total Payment \$ _____

RT AIR GATEWAY _____ **ROOMMATE'S RT AIR GATEWAY** _____

see tour details panel for included group RT air gateway/departure city, additional charges apply for other RT air gateways

To avoid change fees, submit Passport names (first/mid/last) exactly as they appear on Passports

Passport Name _____

DOB (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____

Gender

☐ M ☐ F

Roommate's Passport Name (1 bedded rooms only***) _____

DOB (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____

Gender

☐ M ☐ F

Passport #: _____ Exp (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____ Country of Issuance _____

Roommate's Passport #: _____ Exp (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____ Country of Issuance _____

Your Address _____ ☐ Check if Roommate's address is the same

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Tel # _____ Mbl # _____

Email Address _____

Emergency Contact/Tel # _____

Cardholder Name (if paying by credit card) _____

Amount to be charged \$ _____



Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____ CVV# _____

Cardholder Billing Address: ☐ Check if address is the same as above _____

Signature Required _____ Today's Date: _____

(for credit card use & acceptance of terms*):

*I (We) agree to pay according to the credit card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation fees/policy and other terms.

PREMIER'S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN (TPP) \$499 per person

(must purchase with Initial Deposit)

Part A – Cancellation Waiver provided by PWD

I. Trip Cancellation Waiver (TCW) - Guarantees full refund on all payments, except the Trip Cancellation Waiver Fee itself in case of cancellation up to the time and date of departure due to the passenger's personal illness or death of an immediate family member. Medical/official documentation required.

II. Premier "Any Reason" Cancellation Waiver (ARCW) - Reimburses 75% of the cancellation fees in the form of a future travel credit certificate (FTCC) valid for 1 year, if you cancel more than 48 hours prior to scheduled departure for any reason not eligible for cash refund under the TCW (Part A – I.). FTCC is non-transferable, may not be redeemed for cash and does not include any credit for the Trip Cancellation Waiver Fee. **The Trip Cancellation Waiver Fee must be paid for with Initial Deposit and is refundable until 180 days prior to departure.**

The Trip Cancellation Waiver does not cover any single supplement charges due to an individual's traveling companion canceling prior to departure. The Trip Cancellation Waiver is non-transferable and valid for each applicant only. The Trip Cancellation Waiver does not cover any services such as airline tickets not purchased through PWD. Cancellations, Refunds & Inquiries under Part A will be handled by PWD. Certain Exclusions and Restrictions apply.

Part B – Post Departure Travel Protection Plan* provided by USI

Includes coverage for: Trip Interruption (\$1,000); Trip Delay (\$100/Day-Max \$500); Baggage & Personal Effects (\$2,000); Baggage Delay (\$500); Emergency Accident/Sickness Medical Expense - excess coverage (\$30,000); Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation (\$150,000); Accidental Death & Dismemberment (\$25,000); Non-Insurance and Emergency Travel Assistance Services** (24/7). Claims & Inquiries under Part B will be administered by USI.

For full Part A and Part B plan details visit: premierworlddiscovery.com/TPP

All Benefits described on this page are for general information basis only. There are certain restrictions, exclusions and limitation that apply to all insurance coverages. Plan benefits, limits and provisions may vary by state jurisdiction.

PASSPORT

A valid US Passport is required for this tour and is the responsibility of each passenger. Passports should be valid for up to six (6) months beyond the travel dates. All names must be submitted to Premier exactly as they appear on passenger passports. **US Passport Cards are not accepted for Air Travel to/from Canada.**

****NO RISK DEPOSIT - NO CHANGE FEES**

Deposits & TPP payments for any Bookings made for this tour are fully refundable until 180 days prior to departure, should your plans change inside of 180 days you can use the full value (Future Travel Credit**) of your Deposit or TPP on a different program as long as you change plans or let us know prior to the Final Payment Due Date.

**FTC's are valid for 12 mos from dep date & non-transferable.

CANCELLATION FEES**

Cancellations not covered by the Travel Protection Plan (TPP) or if the TPP is not purchased, are subject to the following per person fees:

- Cancel more than 180 days prior to departure: Full Refund
 - Cancel 179-90 days prior to departure: Deposit or TPP* is Retained**
 - Cancel 89-60 days prior to departure: 25% of total price
 - Cancel 59-30 days prior to departure: 50% of total price
 - Cancel 29-15 days prior to departure: 75% of total price
 - Cancel 14 days or less prior to departure/no shows: No refunds
- *if purchased **Future Travel Credit issued for Deposit or TPP* value

RESPONSIBILITY

World Tours LLC dba Premier World Discovery (hereafter PWD), whose vouchers are used by respective agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, sightseeing tours and transportation, hold themselves free of responsibility for any damages occasioned from any cause whatsoever. PWD will not be responsible for any damages or inconvenience caused by late arrivals, departures and change of schedule or other conditions nor will they be responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time the passenger is not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of this tour/cruise, and/or passenger. PWD does not hold any responsibility for the conduct of any of its members, hotel, motorcoach, cruise line, train, airline or other personnel. PWD reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of a tour/cruise at its discretion. PWD &/or its Tour Director retain the right to require any participant to withdraw from a tour/cruise at any time, if determined to be in the best interests of health, safety & general welfare of the tour/cruise group or of the individual participant. Arbitration - I/We agree, any and all disputes concerning this contract or any other material concerning the trip, or the trip itself must be resolved exclusively pursuant to binding arbitration in the state of California, pursuant to the then current rules of the American Arbitration Association. Payment of the deposit for this tour/cruise constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. CST #2048841-40

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS/NOTES

Itinerary and hotels are subject to change.

*****IMPORTANT ROOM NOTE:**

Due to planned renovations at the Empress 2 bedded rooms will NOT be available. All rooms contracted for 2026 are single bedded rooms. Hotels, Itinerary and Inclusions are subject to change.

AIR NOTE/SEAT REQUESTS/AIRLINE BAG FEES:

Air Schedules may not be available until Final Trip Documentation is received. Airline baggage fees & seat assignment fees are not included in tour rates. Many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. If specific seat requests or airline choice is extremely important to your reservation, we recommend you book land only and make your own air reservations. Please make this adjustment to land only/own air at time of tour reservation.



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