



ADVENTURE ASSOCIATES

www.AdventureAssociates.net

PO Box 16304 • Seattle WA 98116 • 206-932-8352

info@AdventureAssociates.net



SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WA: BASE CAMP WHALE WATCH KAYAK

There's nothing like it - paddling your kayak while eye-level with an Orca whale! Being close to one of the world's largest, wild mammals is an incredible experience! The west coast of San Juan Island is the prime viewing area for resident pods of Orca. These gentle marine giants follow the salmon run in Haro Strait. The islands are also rich with other marine life - seals, porpoises, eagles, sea birds and otter. Sea kayaking is an ideal way to explore tranquil settings, shorelines, quiet coves, dramatic headlands and shallow tidal areas. This trip is "base camp" style: we return to the same camp each night and take only what we need for the day's paddle in the kayaks. The San Juan Islands are a sea kayaker's paradise! Camping, kayak equipment and all meals included. No experience needed.

Land Costs: \$495

**Trip Dates: May 24 – 26, 2008 (Memorial Day weekend Sat-Mon)
June-Aug Call for Availability**

DAY 1

The trip originates in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island approximately 10 am. You must catch the early morning ferry from Anacortes (approx. a two hour drive north of Seattle) to Friday Harbor. Adventure Associates will meet the group at the ferry terminal in Friday Harbor and transport the group via vehicle shuttle to our base camp. Spend the morning settling into camp, learning and practicing basic sea kayaking skills with equipment and gear orientation. Please pack a brown bag lunch today, as we will be eating lunch prior to launching. Evening dinner and campfire conversation. (D)

DAY 2

After a healthy and hearty breakfast, we launch from San Juan Island and paddle past an ideal destination for kayakers to view resident Orca pods. Typically, this area is one of the best and most predictable regarding the presence of whales. We pull ashore for a picnic lunch. We have plenty of time to enjoy the beauty and

remoteness of this forested island. In the late afternoon we return to our campsite for an evening of quiet relaxation and sunset views. (BLD)

DAY 3

We break camp this morning after finishing an early breakfast and enjoying a morning paddle. We'll have some lunch snacks before it's time to catch the mid-afternoon ferry back to Anacortes, returning to Seattle by early evening. (B)

Land Costs	Deposit	In-country Flights	Trip Dates	Group Size	Difficulty	Activities
\$495*	Entire fee due at registration	none	Call for availability	5-14	No Experience Needed	Kayaking, Camping, Wildlife

*Price Note: The difference in price between our coed 3-day Whale Watch Kayak trips is Base Camp style and Expedition style. Expedition trips incur extra costs.

A FEW IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT YOUR TRIP...Read carefully

Included in your Trip Fee: Transportation between Friday Harbor ferry dock and base camp; guiding and kayak instruction; permits; all meals from dinner day one through snack lunch on day three; stable double sea kayaks and paddling gear; group cook gear; camp gear (2-person tents, Therma-rest sleeping pad).

Not Included in your Trip Fee: Transportation and airport shuttle to Seattle; transportation to Anacortes, WA ferry terminal (approx. 2 hours north of Seattle); parking fee in Anacortes (approx. \$25/3 days); ferry passenger fees; lunch on day one; personal sleeping bag; personal clothing and rain gear (a detailed list will be provided after we receive your registration); travel/evacuation/medical insurance; money for incidental personal expenses (shopping, whale museum entrance fee in case of inclement weather, tips for guides).

How Strenuous is this trip: You do not need to be an experienced sea kayaker – all basic skills will be presented. Our itinerary allows for enough flexibility to accommodate a wide variety of experience levels. Our kayaks are top-of-the-line fiberglass Necky Tofino doubles - very stable, seaworthy and slick!

How is the food: The food is excellent and healthy - we serve lots of fresh fruit and veggies, cheese, breads, some meats and fish. This is a participatory trip, so everyone pitches in with the meal preparation and clean-up. If you have special dietary needs please inform us on your application.

Transportation/Flight Arrangements: If you need flight arrangements to Seattle, please contact Adventure Associates – we can assist with your travel arrangements. An airport shuttle (Shuttle Express, 800-487-7433) offers door-to-door service to the downtown Seattle area for approximately \$25, and Metro public transportation for around \$5. Call our office for further details. You can get to Friday Harbor by Washington State Ferry, Victoria Clipper, or Kenmore Air Seaplane. Most common route is the ferry, plan to board the 8:00 am ferry(*) westbound from Anacortes to Friday Harbor as a walk-on passenger on day one of your trip. Adventure Associates will provide transport from the ferry dock in Friday Harbor to campsite. Please call if you need information about how to reach Friday Harbor from Seattle. **We can provide you with exact ferry time once summer schedules are printed.*

Special Note: Although we try to adhere to this printed itinerary, due to circumstances beyond our control (i.e. weather, tide and currents, revised ferry schedules), this schedule is subject to change.

How to Register: If you do not have an application form, please contact our office for a complete registration packet. Complete the application form and return it to our office along with the appropriate deposit. Upon receipt of your application, we will send you a confirmation and final

details about your pre-trip preparation.

Payment Schedule: We accept checks, Visa, MasterCard or American Express.

Full payment due at time of registration (\$100 non-refundable)

Cancellation & Refund Policy

If you must cancel prior to departure, the following fee will be assessed based upon our receipt of your written cancellation request:

Days Prior to Departure (trip destination)

90 or more \$100

60 to 89 \$200

45 to 59 50% fee

1 to 44 100% fee

No partial refunds are possible for any unused portion of your trip.

Penalties on airline tickets are subject to the individual air carrier's rules and regulations. Departure is defined as the date of the first flight, or the trip departure date as indicated on our Trip Schedule, whichever comes first.

Once a trip has been confirmed medical circumstances will not be considered as exceptions to our cancellation policy. However, if you have purchased a comprehensive Travel Insurance plan that covers cancellation, you may be able to retrieve some of the funds.



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