

For Immediate Release
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**BUSY TRAVEL WEEKEND EXPECTED ON HORSESHOE BAY – DEPARTURE BAY
ROUTE
Coastal Inspiration delayed coming out of refit**

VICTORIA – BC Ferries intended to add a major vessel to the Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay schedule to address expected increases in traffic, especially over the summer weekends. Unfortunately, a planned repair to a propeller hub on the Coastal Inspiration is taking longer than planned to complete and this vessel will be delayed returning to service until at least June 30.

BC Ferries scheduled the Coastal Inspiration to provide additional service starting June 23. As there are no other vessels available to replace this service, BC Ferries is informing customers that the company will need to cancel reservations on some Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay sailings. For customers travelling on this route without a reservation, they will likely experience sailing delays. BC Ferries Customer Care will contact affected customers via email to inform them of the cancellation of their reservation and fee refund.

“We sincerely apologize for this unexpected change in service,” said Corrine Storey, BC Ferries’ Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. “We recognize how much this affects our customers, and the travel plans they have made.”

Since being informed of the repair delay, BC Ferries has been working with existing ships and schedules to provide the maximum service possible. As BC Ferries is predicting that the busiest day will be Sunday, June 24, in an effort to maximize all available vessels and crews, the company is adding 5 sailings between Vancouver and Vancouver Island on that day, and reservations are available for these sailings.

- From Departure Bay to Horseshoe Bay: a 12:30 am sailing has been added at the end of the service day
- From Duke Point to Tsawwassen: sailings have been added at 5:15 am and 7:45 am
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In addition to considering travel at these off peak sailing times, BC Ferries’ asks customers to please consider the following:

- Travel on an alternative route if possible. The Tsawwassen – Duke Point or Tsawwassen – Swartz Bay routes rather than the Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay route to get to and from Vancouver Island. These routes have additional summer service, reservations are still available on some sailings, and there will be more available capacity to move vehicle and foot passenger traffic.
- If at all possible, consider ride sharing, or travel as a foot passenger.
- Sun., June 24, Thurs., June 28 and Fri. June 29 are expected to be the most popular travel days; if you have some flexibility in your travel schedule, please consider travelling outside busiest times,
- Travel early in the day. Sailings prior to 9 am are less busy.

- Be prepared for sailing waits if you are travelling without a reservation on this route.
- Please check Current Conditions on bcferries.com or follow @BCFerries on Twitter for the most up-to-date service information.

The regular vessels providing service on the Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay route will continue to provide a total of eight round trips per day. The Coastal Inspiration was planned to be an extra vessel in the network, which would allow another vessel to add two to three round trips per day, depending on the day of the week. Click [here](#) for updated schedule details.

“All of our regularly scheduled ships are operating this weekend. Our terminal and on board crew are prepared and will ensure traffic moves as quickly and smoothly as possible. We are doing everything possible to repair this vessel and look forward to providing full service on this route as soon as we can,” said Storey.

An update will be provided on the status of the Coastal Inspiration in the coming days.

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