

For Immediate Release
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EXTRA SAILINGS FOR VICTORIA DAY LONG WEEKEND Queen of Cumberland returns to service on May 18

VICTORIA – BC Ferries is busy preparing for the upcoming Victoria Day long weekend by adding 115 extra sailings on the most popular routes. Extra service is available from Thursday, May 17 through Tuesday, May 22. Over in the Southern Gulf Islands, the Queen of Cumberland will return to service on Friday, May 18 so all of the regular schedules will be in effect.

The most popular travel times for the long weekend are expected to be Thursday and Friday afternoon, and Saturday morning with the majority of traffic departing from Tsawwassen and Horseshoe Bay terminals. Historically, the holiday Monday is the most desired time for travellers returning from Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast. Sailing waits are expected at peak times for customers travelling without a reservation. Reservations are just \$10 if booked seven days or more in advance on reservable routes.

Metro Vancouver – Victoria route:

- 73 extra sailings are scheduled on the Tsawwassen – Swartz Bay route, including some 6 am, 10 pm sailings as well as a 10:50 pm sailing departing Swartz Bay on Monday, May 21

Four vessels will provide hourly service on the Tsawwassen – Swartz Bay route on the Victoria Day long weekend; the Spirit of Vancouver Island, Coastal Celebration, Coastal Renaissance and the Queen of New Westminster. The Spirit of British Columbia is currently completing its mid-life upgrade and will return to the route in June.

For customers travelling to and from the mid-island, the Tsawwassen – Duke Point route may also be a good option. The Coastal Inspiration and Queen of Alberni will provide up to 16 sailings per day. Door to door travel times from Metro Vancouver to the mid-island are often shorter when using Tsawwassen terminal instead of Horseshoe Bay.

West Vancouver – Mid Island/Sunshine Coast routes:

- 18 extra sailings are scheduled on the Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay route
- 12 extra sailings are scheduled on the Horseshoe Bay – Langdale route
- 12 extra sailings are scheduled on the Earls Cove – Saltery Bay route

Over at Horseshoe Bay, the Queen of Oak Bay, Queen of Cowichan, Queen of Surrey and Queen of Coquitlam will service both the Departure Bay and Langdale routes for the long weekend. The Queen of Capilano will sail as usual on the Bowen Island route.

Southern Gulf Islands Update:

Regular schedules resume in the Southern Gulf Islands in time for the long weekend with the return to service of the Queen of Cumberland on Friday, May 18. This vessel was temporarily removed from service last month due to a malfunction with a rescue boat davit. This davit is being replaced and the vessel will be recertified prior to returning to service.

The Southern Gulf Islands schedule includes the addition of the second Salish class vessel for enhanced peak service from Tsawwassen and the Southern Gulf Islands.

BC Ferries will help make your trip enjoyable:

Extra staff will be available to assist customers on the vessels, at the terminals and at the Customer Service Centre. Face painters and balloon artists will entertain young travellers at select locations. The marketplaces at Swartz Bay, Duke Point and Langdale terminals will be open for treats as well as arts and crafts. BC Ferries hopes you have a pleasant journey.

For schedule information and reservations, visit bcferries.com. For the most up to date travel information, follow [@BCFerries](https://twitter.com/BCFerries) on Twitter.

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