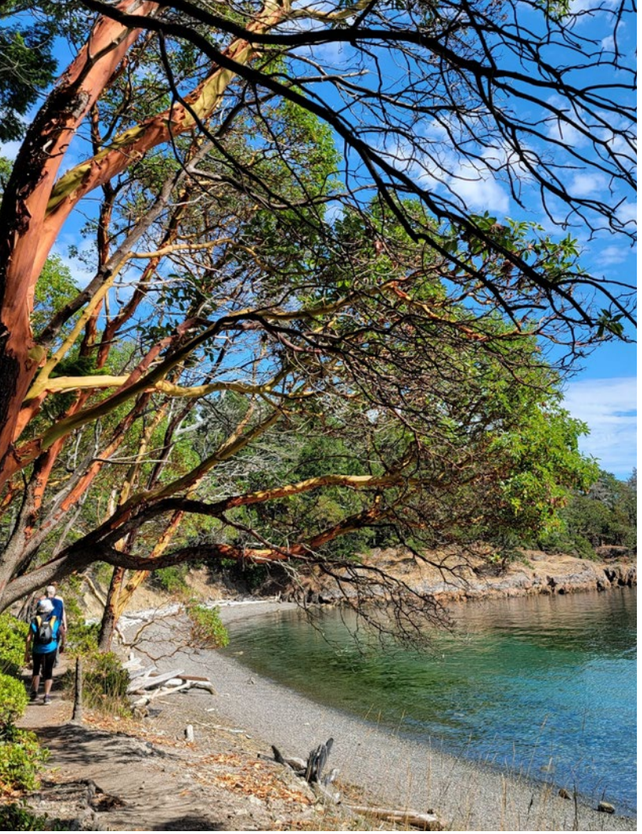
# Gourmet Kayaking Expedition

San Juan Outfitters

SAVOR SEATTLE



SAVOR SEATTLE

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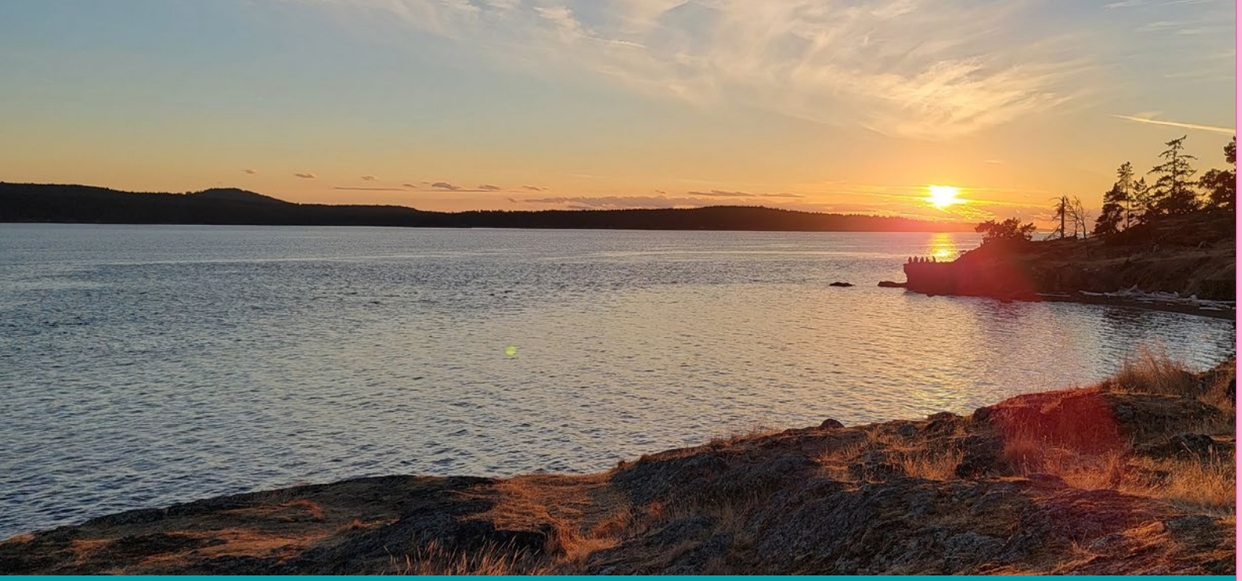

Get ready for a gourmet foodie and nature experience in Washington's San Juan Islands, complete with hyper-local cuisine, happy hours and Washington wine.

**AS SEEN IN**

Sunset TRAVEL+ LEISURE seattle magazine

The San Juan Islands host some of the most beautiful wildlife and sightseeing in Washington State. Savor Seattle has partnered with San Juan Outfitters to offer you the chance to explore this gorgeous region from the sea-level view of a kayak! Instead of typical camping fare, your Guides prepare gourmet meals using recipes developed by Savor Seattle's founder, Angela Shen. Fascinating sea life and spectacular sunsets are complemented by entrees like braised short ribs, desserts like raspberry white chocolate cheesecake, and Happy Hour treats like Fran's Chocolates' salted caramels. Each dinner and Happy Hour is paired with a selection of Lost River Winery's wines.

This is the ultimate trip for the foodie who enjoys nature, the outdoor enthusiast who loves a great meal, or anyone who would like to relax on a beach with a glass of wine after a day of kayaking in the beautiful San Juan Islands.

San Juan Outfitters

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**CHECK OUT OUR VIDEO ABOUT THE TRIP!**

**VIEW MORE PHOTOS FROM THE TRIP!**



# Itinerary

**DAY 1**

Your kayaking adventures begin at 10:30 am in Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, WA. After a short shuttle van ride to the historic seaside village of Roche Harbor, you will repack your belongings into dry bags. Anything that you leave behind will be stored securely until you return from the trip.

Enjoy a picnic lunch of grilled meat skewers paired with a hearty black rice salad with lemon vinaigrette, accompanied by a discussion of paddling technique and a review of the upcoming adventure.

We will then paddle along the eastern shore of San Juan Island and University of Washington Marine Sanctuary en route to Jones Island State Park. Here is where you will set up camp for two nights. The total paddle distance is 7 miles, broken up into 2-3 segments depending on the group's speed and needs.

Upon arrival at the camp site, you will assist with unloading all of the kayaks and pitching your own tents. Enjoy Happy Hour, grilled salmon with smoked sea salt paired with Lost River wines, and rosemary olive oil cake with fruit compote for dessert.

**DAY 2**

After a hearty breakfast of bacon and spinach faro with scrambled eggs, we will explore the shores of the Wasp Islands and Yellow Island. Today's 3-4 mile journey (2-3 hours) takes us through plentiful wildlife and scenery.

Reenergize with a fantastic meal of pork tenderloin with cherry chutney served with Chukar Cherries peach cherry salsa. After returning to camp, enjoy some flexible downtime and/or join your Guides for an easy 1-3 mile hike with lush and sweeping views.

Enjoy a Happy Hour of Fran's salted caramels and local cheese, fruit, and nuts. After short ribs for dinner, make sure to save room for dessert! And don't be surprised if somehow a dance party with headlamps for strobe lights spontaneously combusts. Stranger things have been known to happen!

**DAY 3**

After another cooked-to-order breakfast, you will break down camp and assist with loading all equipment back into the kayaks. Your 7-mile return paddle (3-4 hours) to Roche Harbor may include visits to Rueben Tarte Park and/or Posey Island depending upon the group's ability, weather, and tide conditions. Your final lunch of peaches and chickpeas with slow-cooked pulled BBQ pork sandwiches will give you fuel for the final unpacking of the boats and gear upon arrival back to Roche Harbor.

You will repack items from the dry bags into the luggage you left in storage pre-trip. The expedition will conclude between 3:00-4:00pm in Roche Harbor where a shuttle van awaits to transport you back to Friday Harbor ferry terminal.

** Itinerary is subject to modifications depending upon weather, water conditions, and group's overall fitness and ability level.*

# What to Expect

## FOOD & WINE

The menu was developed by Savor Seattle's founder, Angela Shen. Each season, she works closely with San Juan Island Outfitter's team of tour guides and kitchen production team to train, educate, and collaborate to provide a gourmet weekend filled with food and drink that will redefine your expectations of "camping food." Ingredients are sourced hyper-locally with a focus on artisan makers with a commitment to sustainability and quality.

The trip includes: two breakfasts, three lunches, two happy hours, two dinners, snacks while on the water, coffee and tea at breakfast, sparkling water at lunch and dinner, and wine at dinner. We encourage guests to bring a bottle of their favorite adult beverage to share with the group. It is a fun way to connect with one another and build stronger group camaraderie.

Recipes will be emailed to you at the conclusion of the trip. Have dietary restrictions? No problem! We can accommodate most restrictions including: vegetarian, pescatarian, dairy-free, and gluten-free. Please note that there is not always an "out of this world" second-best option, but we will do our absolute best! We also cannot accommodate last minute changes given the complexity and limitations of being in the great outdoors prepping and cooking only with what was planned for. Thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding!

## Sample Menu Items

### BREAKFAST

- Kale and sausage hash
- Bacon and egg scramble with farro

### LUNCH

- Grilled shrimp and vegetable skewers with lemongrass black rice
- Pork tenderloin with cherry chutney
- Slow-cooked pulled BBQ pork sandwich

** Menu is subject to change without notice, depending on supplier availability.*

### HAPPY HOUR

- Fran's Chocolate salted caramels and truffles
- Beecher's Handmade Cheese medley and other local cheeses
- Fruit, berries, nuts, crackers, and honey

### DINNER

- Grilled salmon with Israeli couscous
- Braised short ribs with broccolini
- Rosemary olive oil cake with zabaglione
- The Confectional's white chocolate raspberry cheesecake



# What to Expect

## WILDLIFE

Some of the more common wildlife sightings include minke whales, humpback whales, Dall's porpoises, harbor porpoises, harbor seals, stellar sea lions, and river otters. In terms of birds, the San Juans are host to the second largest breeding population of bald eagles in the lower 48 states. Other birds include loons, belted kingfishers, harlequin ducks, and a host of others. Occasionally we have sightings of orcas, gray whales, elephant seals, and California sea lions.

We strive to provide a fantastic kayak experience and consider orca whales to be the icing on an already amazing cake of adventure and natural beauty. Please remember that these endangered animals have a large territory to cover, a limited food supply, and have suffered a huge decline in their population over the last century. We try not to give them too much flak if they don't show up on cue!

## ACCOMMODATIONS & COMFORT

Guests will be tent camping (singles or doubles) at Jones Island State Park. Bathroom facilities are composting outhouses.

Unfortunately, there are no showers available at the campsites. On the positive side, if you have never kayaked before, you will be pleasantly surprised that you do not get as dirty and sweaty as you would backpacking. There are public showers located in Roche Harbor at the end of the trip. There is a well pump which provides potable water and can be useful to use in conjunction with a small towel for a simple wipe down. A hand washing station with soap will be set up by San Juan Island Outfitters at the camp site for our guests.

The campsites are managed by the Washington State Parks Department. All the sites have picnic tables, fire pits, potable water, and outhouses. Conditions and state-mandated burn bans may necessitate shutting off the well pump and precluding bonfires. While out of our control, we do our best to manage and mitigate for adverse conditions (e.g. bringing in our own potable water).

There are no electrical outlets at the camp sites, so please bring mobile charging banks for your cell phone. Cell service is usually available at camp and intermittently available while on the water.

Guests comfortable camping in rustic conditions and have an easygoing attitude will appreciate and enjoy these trips the most!

# What to Expect

## GUEST INVOLVEMENT & EXPERIENCE

It is a collaborative and team effort setting up and breaking down camp together. Guests are also expected to pitch in and share in paddling with and packing and unloading the kayaks with gear, equipment and food. Guests pitch their own tents (Guides are happy to show you how and assist as needed!).

Guides will be responsible for cooking, cleaning, serving, and of course, guiding you on the water and optional hikes and keeping you safe.

It takes a small village to pull off the kind of epic food, wine, and nature experience that is in store for you. We promise it is a lot more fun when everyone helps out.

## WEATHER & WATER CONDITIONS

Luckily, kayaking is already a water sport, so we do paddle in rain. Rarely do we cancel a trip, unless conditions are extreme, in which we will reschedule your trip.

Your Guides will closely monitor tide, water, and weather conditions to chart the best timing and paddling routes. Conditions can change quickly and can mean the difference between an easy 90-minute paddle and a 3-hour stretch with choppier conditions. Guides are skilled at balancing Mother Nature's mood with the group's abilities in order to provide the safest and best guest experience on and off the water.



# What to Expect

## FITNESS LEVEL

You do not need to be an experienced paddler to enjoy the trip. The paddling will naturally be more challenging for beginners than experts, but a positive attitude and a willingness to learn are all it takes to have fun. Our kayaks are very safe and easy to use, and we strive to create experiences that people can enjoy regardless of their experience level.

Our Guides will provide thorough paddling and safety instructions and ensure everyone feels comfortable before getting out on the water.

A certain level of physical fitness and stamina is recommended to fully enjoy the experience. You will be paddling up to 5 hours a day, broken up with meal breaks. We recommend conditioning muscle groups of the upper body by doing light exercise (calisthenics, rowing, swimming, etc.) for at least two full weeks prior to your tour.

Our Guides are experts at instructing beginner paddlers. Our intention is to travel no faster than the slowest paddler in the group and utilize endurance to get us where we need to go.

Occasionally, we paddle through stronger currents that require sustained paddling for channel crossings. For your safety, your Guides may ask you to paddle stronger and faster to effectively and efficiently cross a channel. We will take plenty of breaks on the water to rest, observe wildlife, and take in the beauty of the islands.

## COVID Safety

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO KEEPING STAFF AND GUESTS HEALTHY AND SAFE.

For the 2023 season, we will continue to follow all safety directives and best practices put out by government and health organizations. We are working hard to ensure that our guests and staff will feel at ease when joining or leading our tours.

Along with additional and enhanced health and hygiene measures, all our tours have the benefit of taking place in, or having access to, open-air spaces. Wind, fresh air, and sunshine all work in our favor to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus.

Savor Seattle and San Juan Island Outfitters safely and successfully ran trips during the 2020-2022 seasons. Since recommendations and mandates are constantly evolving, we will continue to update processes and procedures as necessary.

**Please visit San Juan Island Outfitters' full COVID Safety measures here.**

# Travel Planning - Getting to Friday Harbor

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**The most common and economical way to travel to Friday Harbor is driving/renting a car and riding the Washington State Ferry.**

**Rental Car ($)**
Flying into SeaTac International airport? Rent a car and drive to the Anacortes Ferry Terminal (approximately 100 miles). We recommend parking in long-term parking at the ferry terminal and walking onto the ferry. Don't forget to pay for parking! It is between $11-$13/day depending upon total duration.

**Washington State Ferry ($)**
Departs from Anacortes, WA (approximately 80 miles north of downtown Seattle) to Friday Harbor, WA. As the ferry system is very busy in the summer, we recommend arriving at the ferry dock at least an hour before your departure time. We recommend walking on to the ferry and taking advantage of the long-term parking available at the ferry dock in Anacortes. There is extremely limited long-term parking available in Friday Harbor.

The ferry is suitable for morning arrivals on the day your trip departs, so no overnight the night before is necessary — although we recommend it for your enjoyment!

$ $

**Don't want to deal with a rental car and/or are staying in Seattle before the trip? Take the Victoria Clipper vessel from downtown Seattle directly to Friday Harbor.**

**Victoria Clipper ($$)**
Take a taxi or Uber/Lyft from SeaTac airport (approximately 20 miles) to the Victoria Clipper Terminal in downtown Seattle. The vessel will take you directly to Friday Harbor (approximately 3 hours and 45 minutes).

The Victoria Clipper operates Friday-Monday only, with an arrival into Friday Harbor of 12:00pm, so this option would not be feasible for guests unless you are planning on arriving and staying in Friday Harbor for several nights before the trip commences.

$ $ $

**For the royal treatment, splurge on a seaplane or a charter plane!**

**Kenmore Air ($$$)**
A scenic 35-minute flight from either Boeing Field (free shuttle from SeaTac airport, wheeled plane, 50lb baggage allowance) or Lake Union (float plane, no shuttle, 25lb baggage allowance) to Friday Harbor. We recommend Boeing > Friday Harbor as the most time efficient and convenient itinerary.

**Friday Harbor Sea Planes ($$$)**
Float planes that depart from Renton, WA. $8 shuttle from SeaTac airport.

**San Juan Airlines ($$$)**
Flying from Bellingham, Anacortes, Point Roberts and the San Juans. Charters available.

**Westwind Aviation ($$$)**
A Friday Harbor, WA based airline providing charter flights anywhere in the Pacific Northwest including the San Juan Islands.



# Meeting Location on Day 1

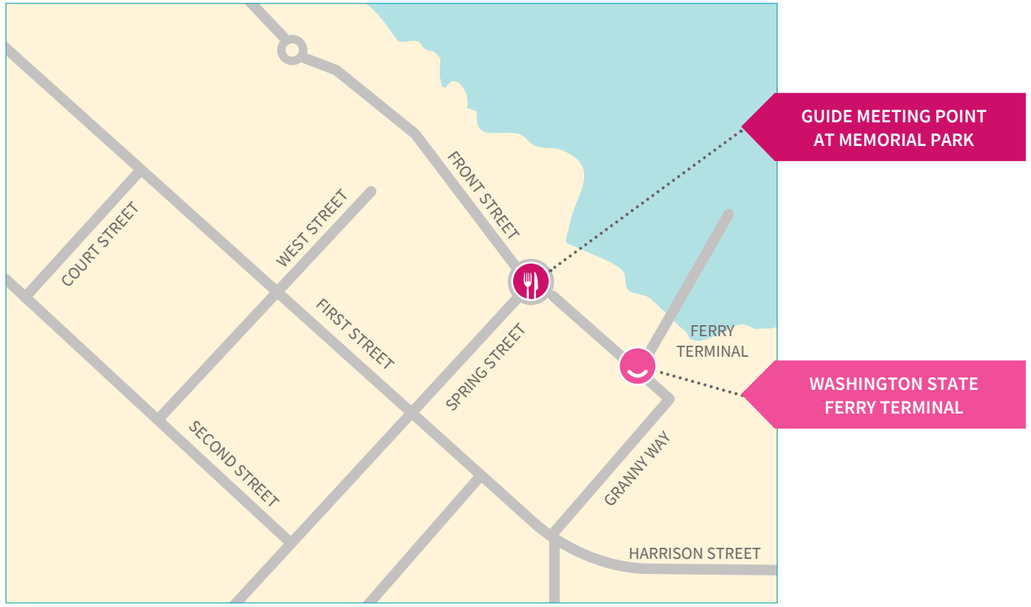
**Meet us at Memorial Park, 325 feet (100 meters) north of the Friday Harbor Ferry Terminal at 10:30am.**

You will be met by your Guides and transferred via shuttle to the start location in Roche Harbor to begin our adventure with a picnic lunch and paddling.

If you miss the group transfer for any reason, please call these emergency phone numbers: **360.378.1962 or 360.472.0582**

Arrangements will be made to meet the group as soon as possible. Once the trip departs on Day 1, it is very difficult to catch up, so please double check all travel details.

## Friday Harbor Meetup Location




### DEPARTURE & TRANSFER INFORMATION

We are on the water paddling most of the last day. We plan to finish our scheduled activities and return everyone to Friday Harbor by 4:00 P.M. With this in mind, please try not to schedule ferries/flights out of Friday Harbor prior to 5:30pm. If you absolutely need to catch the 3:40pm ferry departing from Friday Harbor to Anacortes, please let us know with as much advanced notice as possible.

Most travelers find it most relaxing to spend 1-2 nights prior to the kayak trip on the island and one night following the trip before departing for home.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

If you are planning on arriving to the San Juan Islands before your Kayak Expedition departs, we recommend staying in Friday Harbor. If availability is an issue, we recommend staying in Anacortes and then walking onto the ferry to Friday Harbor the morning-of the trip.

Accomodations are also available in Roche Harbor, however many properties require a 2-3 night minimum stay. If you will be staying in Roche Harbor, please let us know so that we can provide you with alternate tour meet up information.

Visit TripAdvisor for accommodation reviews and recommendations. We enjoy the Earthbox Inn & Spa ($$) and Friday Harbor House ($$$). If you only plan to spend one night on the island, we recommend staying over Sunday night at the end of your trip.

# Packing List

All food and most paddling and camping gear is included in the price of the trip: Snacks, all meals, drinks, wine, tents, kayaks, paddles and spray skirts. You simply bring your clothing, personal items, and cash for discretionary gratuity for your Guides.

A sleeping kit which includes a pillow, sleeping pad, and sleeping bag is available for rent for a $50 fee. We prefer and encourage guests bring their own.

If you are bringing your own sleeping kit, you will be provided a separate dry bag for that gear. Only single sleeping bags can be accommodated, as doubles are too large to fit into dry bags. Sleeping bags need to be of the compactable variety.

Your other items will need to fit into one 20 liter dry bag and one 5 liter bag. This not a lot of space, so please pack wisely!

You will trasfer your gear into these dry bags before departing in your kayaks for the trip. When you arrive via shuttle bus from Friday Harbor to Roche Harbor, the first order of business will be repacking items from your luggage into the dry bags. These dry bags will then be stowed into the kayaks for the trip.

Any leftover luggage can and will be stored on shore in a secure facility until you return at the end of the trip. Upon return, you will unpack the items from the dry bags back into your own luggage.

## Our Recommended Packing List

- 1 pair quick dry shorts
- 1 pair synthetic tights
- 1 pair pants (preferably quick dry)
- 2 short sleeve quick dry tops
- 1 long sleeve synthetic top
- 1 long sleeve mid weight fleece or down jacket
- 1 waterproof rain jacket
- 2 pairs of socks — synthetic or wool
- 1 pair water shoes or sandals with heel strap
- 1 pair comfortable hiking shoes (sneakers ok)
- Undergarments (preferably quick dry)
- Fleece or wool hat for warmth in the evenings and mornings
- Ball cap or wide-brimmed hat for sun/rain
- Headlamp/flashlight
- Personal toiletries
- Reusable water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Any necessary medications
- Aspirin or ibuprofen
- Paddling, lifting, or bike riding gloves
- Eye mask
- Ear plugs
- Phone charging battery bank(s) and cables

**OPTIONAL ITEMS:**

- 1 pair compressible tennis shoes, slip on sandals or flip flops (campwear)
- Waterproof cell phone case
- Small hand towel for personal use
- A bottle of wine, beers or other type of beverage you'd like to share with the group
- Cash for discretionary Guide gratuities
- Reading material or games (e.g. playing cards)

# Gratuities

While customary, tipping is voluntary and at your discretion. These trips require a higher level of skill to execute due to the complexities of elevated food preparations. If you feel your Guides did an outstanding job and would like to reward them for their efforts, a suggested guideline is 18-20% of the trip cost.

# What Our Guests Say

"This was one of the best trips I have ever been on! The beauty of the San Juan Islands is breathtaking and kayaking was absolutely the best way to experience it. The food was outstanding. The best part is that it is all cooked and served to the guests. From making the reservation to leaving the islands, the experience I had with Savor Seattle was nothing short of outstanding!"

**— Erin F. , 2022**

"The food was amazing, the guides were wonderful, and the sights could not be beat. We were also very lucky to be in such great company as well! It was a really phenomenal and low-stress way to be able to fully experience the San Juans for the first time."

**— Kristin W. , 2022**

San Juan Outfitters

SAVOR SEATTLE

# Contact Us

If you have questions about the trip prior to booking or departure, please email: info@savorseattletours.com or call 206.898.4418.

**If you will be late to the meeting location, need to cancel last minute or have an emergency, please call these emergency phone numbers: 360.378.1962 or 360.472.0582.**