

Overview of the 2021 International IPPS Tour in Southwest British Columbia, Canada and Northwest Washington State, USA

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Abstract

The 2021 meeting of the IPPS International begins with the International Tour, which starts in Vancouver, British Columbia and finishes in Bellingham, Washington, the site of the IPPS Western Region Annual Meeting. On the tour, we will see magnificent scenery, excellent parks and gardens, and a wide array of first-rate propagation and production nurseries. Our itinerary includes stops in and

around Vancouver and picturesque southern Vancouver Island; mild, protected Puget Sound; the dry interior of British Columbia; and the coastal mountains and the transition zones between. We will be travelling through several biogeoclimatic zones as we see many distinctive landscapes. The following is a taste of what to expect.

Metro Vancouver (pop. 2 million) is the largest city in western Canada, and one of the largest seaports in North America. Vancouver was named and incorporated in 1886 and is now considered one of the most livable cities in the world.

Victoria is located at the southern tip of Vancouver Island. Southern Vancouver Island is known for its many gardens and forests with remnant giant conifers.

Sea to Sky Corridor. From Howe Sound, north of Vancouver to the Pemberton Valley, this area is noted for spectacular mountain scenery and all kinds of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Okanagan Valley. The dry, rain-shadow climate area east of the Coast and Cascade Mountains is British Columbia's prime fruit-growing region.

Similkameen Country. Settled during the Interior gold rushes of the 1880s and 90s, this area is known primarily for ranching and outdoor recreation.

The **Fraser River** is one of the world's major salmon rivers and the Fraser Valley lowlands immediately east of Vancouver has the largest concentration of berry farms and nurseries in British Columbia.

North Puget Sound. The protected waters of the Sound create a cool, maritime climate, ideal for berries, bulbs, potatoes, and nursery stock production. The protected islands and peninsulas are also home to world-famous American gardens.