



## A Cruise of A Different Nature

### “Turbulence is a bad thing on a cruise through paradise, Wesmar Stabilizers Saved Our New Business...”

*Captain Alan Landry, Archipelago Nature Cruises*

Large yachts packed with sports fishermen have for years traveled to Barkley Sound, captured by its abundant beauty and huge salmon. Now, thanks to an enterprising couple, (both masters certified by Transport Canada to operate a passenger vessel) the beauty of the area is available to wildlife enthusiasts who get an up close and personal look at some of the world's most revered creatures from their cruise boat.

Alan and Toddy Landry operate Archipelago Nature Cruises on board their luxurious 53-foot Canoe Cove motor yacht, the “Raincoast Maiden,” which departs daily from Ucluelet, BC on western Vancouver Island taking guests on a unique tour of the abundant wildlife and magical scenery of the area.

They offer a daily wildlife cruise and a sunset cruise, both include rich stories of the history of the area and its spectacular scenery, including a lunch of wild B.C. poached salmon, served chilled with fresh house made salsa and herbed crostina, grilled organic vegetables and locally grown organic greens. The day trip includes whale and wildlife viewing, a tour through the Broken Group Islands, and a gourmet lunch while on anchor. The sunset cruise also features whale and wildlife viewing, and time on the anchor with a toast to the setting sun. Both trips begin in the harbour, a working commercial fishing harbour, which in itself is rich in history and abundant wildlife.

“On our 5-hour day cruise our guests see bears on the beach, eagles in the trees and overhead, with seals and sea

lions in the water and out,” says Alan Landry. “The area is never inactive, and it itself is a sight to see. We travel to Mara Rock to view the Stellar sea lions, huge blond-colored animals weighing up to 2200, twice the size of their

California cousins.

“The Island of Mara is totally exposed with white water surging and crashing up the black rock. The huge blonde males with their harems, the seas of foam swarming with sea lions, some pulling themselves out, others pulling themselves in, the sheer wilderness and beauty of the whole thing makes this my favorite spot on the entire B.C. coast. And without our WESMAR stabilizers we would seldom see it,” says Landry.

Toddy and Alan Landry offer spectacular wildlife viewing to their guests on board the *Raincoast Maiden*. Comfort is provided by WESMAR.

“The waters in which we see the Gray and Humpback whales, and occasional Orcas, are more sheltered, but I sure don't turn off our stabilizers. Why would I, they hold our boat as steady as a rock, and once you've had the boat stabilized, you're hooked.

“After entering the Broken Group Islands, we anchor, shut everything down for an hour, and serve lunch. The rugged and unspoiled beauty make this a highlight of the

*continued on the back...*



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trip. Without exception our customers love it. We believe it's from the feeling of peace in being in this spot, of actually being a part of the West Coast rather than just watching it go by, and the feeling of sharing this with the others on board. We then tour through the narrow channels of the islands, and work our way back to Ucluelet, hopefully past more whales," explains Landry.

Archipelago Nature Cruises offer special whale watching cruises as well including popular 'Whale Festival Cruises' each spring to celebrate the return of the Pacific Gray Whales passing through the area on their long migration north from Mexico to their summer feeding grounds in arctic seas.

According to the Landrys, the growth and continuation of their business depended on their ability to stabilize their boat for comfortable cruising, and their subsequent decision to install a WESMAR hydraulic roll fin stabilizer system with 6-foot fins.

The waters of Barkley Sound and nearby islands are full of the best that nature has to offer, but the seas on the west coast of Vancouver Island are rough much of the time with unending swells from the North Pacific and notorious for 20-knot Westerlies hitting broadside as you exit Ucluelet Inlet into the ocean.

Before their stabilizers, the bookings on the Raincoast

Maiden had to be made conditional based on weather. "We couldn't be taking customers out and be rolling all over," said Landry. "Turbulence is a bad thing on a cruise through paradise."

"The turbulence is gone with the stabilizers, even on quartering seas, we experience only a little roll. The stabilizer system makes all the difference in the world. It's quick reaction time instantly smoothes the ride. We keep it running most of the time. We would not go out without the WESMARs."

We can't say enough good things about them, they saved our business," said Landry. Toddy echoed those sentiments: "Our appreciation for the WESMAR stabilizers, cannot be overstated."

Landry, was a commercial fisherman for 30 years. The past 10 he and Toddy had a shrimp fishing boat and operated out of Ucluelet. In 2005, they exchanged their commercial vessel for their beautifully appointed motor yacht to open the tour business... all part of their plan to remain in Barkley Sound, an area unsurpassed in beauty.

Their tours begin in Ucluelet Inlet, an active fishing harbor, rich in history and wildlife.

Thanks to the WESMAR stabilizers their cruises of a different nature have become cruises of a comfortable nature as well.

About the Cruises: Visit [www.archipelagocruises.com](http://www.archipelagocruises.com)

#### About the Boat

The "Raincoast Maiden" is a 53-foot Canoe Cove motor yacht. It is equipped with safety equipment and certified by Transport Canada to carry 23 passengers plus crew. Not only is this type of vessel renowned for its seaworthiness but the "Raincoast Maiden" is also equipped with state-of-the-art hydraulic stabilizers to ensure a safe and comfortable ride. The boat has a full walk around, large upper deck and huge bow which provides plenty of room to change your viewing area at any time. After marveling at the bird's eye view from the upper deck or riding on the bow with the wind through your hair, enjoy it all from the salon, with 360-degree windows and a coffee in your hands.

#### About the WESMAR Stabilizers

WESMAR stabilizers, known for their lightning speed reaction time and exceptional performance, offer the most advanced sensitivity and control possible. With fin sizes from 2.5 to 30-square-feet they can accommodate the space and power for boats from 30 feet and above, ensuring comfort and control for their customers. WESMAR offers over four decades of marine electronics and mechanical experience and is recognized worldwide for its advanced technology and innovative designs. Visit [www.wesmar.com](http://www.wesmar.com)