

TOUR TEASER ALASKA

A MAD MIDLIFE ADVENTURE – 24 GLORIOUS DAYS – SEPTEMBER 2019



GOT GREEN FINGERS? JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER AT THE Gorgeous Butchart Gardens!



DO YOU LIKE FLOWER-GARDENS? VERY BIG flower-gardens? How about 55-acre flower-gardens? Well, don't miss the chance to join us in September when we explore the magnificent, stunning, immaculate, riotous, bloomin'-marvellous **BUTCHART GARDENS!**

Victoria's most famous attraction will knock your socks off, we promise! Just check out this snippet from John's 'Alaska & the Rockies' travel diary ...

AN EARLY-MORNING WAKE-UP CALL GOT US OUT OF bed ... the hotel's lift got us to the top floor for breakfast ... a coach got us to the ferry terminal at Tsawwassen (bet you can't pronounce it!) ... and a giant BC Ferry took us (coach and all) to **Vancouver Island**, some 90 minutes across a busy waterway. We then headed off, under clear blue skies and a hot Canadian sun, on a walking tour of the world-famous-and-utterly-gorgeous **Butchart Gardens** – where we oohed and aahed and isn't-it-beautifulled for several thoroughly pleasant hours.

This fabulous botanical estate (in case you're

*wondering) was created 100 years ago from the shell of an old quarry – and today features a fragrant **Rose Garden**, a relaxing **Japanese Garden**, a unique **Sunken Garden**, an accented **Italian Garden**, and more flowers than you can poke a stick at. The day we were there, Butchart Gardens was expecting its 50-millionth visitor. (Who knows, that might've been me?)*

Anyway, it's gotta be one of the loveliest corners on the planet – and you'd have to be an unseeing, unfeeling, uncultured klutz not to be blown away!

*We strolled along meandering paths and expansive lawns, played hide-and-seek amongst the hedgerows, climbed steps, breathed-in the fragrances, sat under shade trees, and snacked at the café. Then we followed that up with a get-out-and-walk tour of **Victoria**, capital of British Columbia and once touted as Canada's most Ye-Old-English city.*

*Back in **Vancouver**, our **cruise-ship** was waiting. So we grabbed an early night between crisply-ironed sheets on our enormous king-sized hotel bed ... and dreamed of the next leg on this unforgettable North American adventure!*

