RELAIS & CHATEAUX

Hastings House

COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

To Our Cherished Guests:

On behalf of all the staff at Hastings House Country House Hotel, we pleased to welcome you to our property. We are honoured that you have chosen to stay with us, and we look forward to providing you with a memorable and rejuvenating experience.

For your enjoyment, Hastings House offers the finest on-site amenities. The Wellspring Spa is housed in the cedar-clad barn, nestled among our lovingly nurtured gardens, and provides relaxing massages, facials and body treatments. Likewise, our award-winning restaurant features a curated menu crafted from the freshest ingredients, sourced directly from our farm-to-table gardens and local farmers. Please feel free to wander our 22 acres of gardens and grounds at your leisure.

Our hotel is conveniently located within easy walking distance to the heart of Ganges, where you'll find shops, restaurants, and the island's renowned markets. Art gallery tours, tastings at local wineries are popular here, as are visits to various artisans, organic farms, and food producers. There is also an abundance of natural beauty, breathtaking panoramas, and pleasant walking and hiking trails. Please do not hesitate to seek recommendations from our knowledgeable staff.

Should you need anything during your stay, our staff will be pleased to assist you. Simply dial '0' on your in-room phone and our lovely Reception team will be at your service.

We sincerely thank you for choosing Hastings House Country House Hotel, and we hope that you have a comfortable and relaxing stay on Salt Spring Island.

Warmly,

The Hastings House Team

Hotel Information

Reception

Our reception is open daily; hours vary depending on the season. **Please dial '0' for assistance**. If you have an after-hours emergency, please phone 250-537-6978.

Checkout

Checkout time is 11:00 am. We are happy to hold your luggage at reception for the remainder of the day if you wish to enjoy the property or explore the local area. If you need to check out before Reception opens, please notify Reception the day prior. You may also request a breakfast hamper be delivered to your door the night before departure.

Housekeeping Service

If you do not wish to be disturbed, please hang the plush dog "Do Not Disturb" sign on the hook outside your door and your room will not be serviced. To request stayover service for your room, simply hang the cat-side of the plush animal on the hook before you go to breakfast or out for the day. If you have not received your stayover service before mid-afternoon, please dial "0" to notify Reception.

Wi-Fi

Wireless Internet is available in all guest rooms on the property. Simply select the wireless network name that matches your room and enter the password: **welcomehome**

Mail & Amenities

If you have forgotten to pack any essentials, complimentary amenities are available at Reception for your convenience. Items include basic toiletries, shower caps, mending kits, earplugs, makeup remover wipes, and feminine products. Should you wish to send or receive mail, our friendly Guest Services staff will be happy to assist you.

Parking

Guest parking is located up the hill behind reception and foot access is via the stairs near the Manor House or the pathway near the lower parking area. The lower parking area is for short-term loading and unloading as well as accessible parking.

Ice

There is an ice machine located beside the reception office, opposite the Barn. There is also an ice machine located at the side of the second Hillside Suite building.

Septic System

As we operate on a septic system, it is important that only bathroom tissue be put in the toilet, any other disposables should be placed in the bins supplied.

Power Failure

In case of a power outage, emergency lights will turn on automatically. They can also be removed from the wall and used as portable flashlights, providing approximately 90 minutes of light.

Smoking

All of our rooms and common areas are non-smoking. A $250 mandatory cleaning fee will be charged for any smoking inside.

Gardens

Guests are always welcome to wander through the property. We are proud to display a number of outdoor art installations for your enjoyment, and you can find details on our website blog. Gardens are fenced to keep the deer out and we ask that if you go through a gate with a sign that says, “Please close the gate behind you,” kindly be sure to do so. This helps ensure that we always have fresh produce and flowers for you to enjoy. We apologize if we occasionally need to close part of our gardens for upkeep.

Gift Items

We are pleased to offer a variety of locally made gift and spa items in our retail display located in Reception. Peruse our collection of local lavender products, candles, teas, a selection of beautiful art cards and prints, glass giftware by the Glass Foundry, and our house-made jams and jellies. We also have copies of *Art for War and Peace* as well as our very own *Hastings House Then and Now*.

Activities

There are a number of outdoor activities available for you to enjoy right here on our property. Please do not hesitate to ask about complimentary binoculars, or bocce and croquet sets. The Forest Lawn, surrounded by cedars and West Coast firs and with a view of the harbour, is an ideal spot for a game. It is located just over the wooden bridge past the wedding arbour.

Food & Beverage

Manor Dining

Set within our historic Sussex-style Manor House, dining at Hastings House is a celebration of local flavours and old world charm. From the vaulted veranda to our cozy fireside living room, every meal is an occasion. Explore our menus and full wine menu on our website at www.hastingshouse.com/manor-dining. Reservations for dinner are recommended.

Farm-to-Table & Local-First

Our selection of tasteful dishes is influenced by the fresh seasonal ingredients from our abundant on-site gardens and local farmers. Vegetables, flowers, fruits, and herbs are often harvested just a few hours before cooking. We are proud that everything we grow on-site is non-GMO and free of any chemical fertilizers or pesticides.

What cannot be home-grown is sourced from local producers wherever possible. Salt Spring Island lamb from Ruckle Farm is renowned for its quality, while duck, chicken, and quail's eggs are also produced nearby. We are proud to offer fantastic accompaniments from Salt Spring Island Cheese, Bullock Lake Farm, Salt Spring Island Ales, Del Vecchio Pasta Fresca, Kutatás Winery, Garry Oaks Estate Winery, and Salt Spring Wild Cider, as well as seasonal, locally foraged blackberries and mushrooms, and more.

Morning Muffins & Breakfast

A complimentary basket of freshly baked muffins will be quietly left outside your door each morning between 7:15 and 7:45 am. Fresh, made-to-order breakfast is included with your stay and can be enjoyed in the Manor House each morning from 8:00 until 10:00 am.

Wellspring Spa at Hastings House

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In the cedar-clad barn, nestled among the lovingly nurtured gardens of our enchanting country estate, we welcome you to experience exceptional service from our expert therapists. The relaxing and healthful offerings at our spa include a variety of massages, facials & body treatments.

Spa bookings are required at our boutique spa a minimum of 24 hours in advance so that we can coordinate your treatment with the ideal practitioner. Please also notify us of any changes or cancellations at least 24 hours in advance of the treatment.

We invite you to arrive a few minutes early to fill out a treatment form. Kindly speak softly and switch off mobile phones for optimal relaxation.

You will find a full menu of our spa services on our website or at Reception. Some of our most popular treatments are:

60-minute Classic or Deep Tissue Massage
75-minute Classic or Deep Tissue Massage
90-minute Classic or Deep Tissue Massage

60-minute Signature Facial
90-minute Signature Facial and Massage Fusion

75-minute Reflexology and Indian Head Massage

Sustainability

Inspired by the property's long history as a working farm, we are committed to operating as sustainably as possible. Everything we do, from food production to gift items to the details in our guest rooms, is approached with responsible practices in mind.

Reducing Waste

Surplus fruit from our heritage orchard is used in preserves that are served at the hotel's breakfast tables and offered as gift items. Herbs grown in our gardens are dried and used to infuse oils. Even our in-room bouquets, picked freshly for each room, are carefully planned and arranged by our floral artists according to seasonal changes. We approach our energy consumption with a similar eye to waste minimization, employing LED lighting property-wide, and reducing single-use plastics by eliminating mini toiletries and plastic water bottles. Even our new roofs on the Post Cottage, Barn and Farm House are made of recycled rubber tires.

Being Water Conscious

Our irrigation needs are supplemented through a series of on-site water catchments, as well as the property's well, and rely on smart technology that syncs with real-time weather. Our tap-water is filtered through a highly effective system to ensure safe, clean water for drinking. All water units throughout the property are low-flow to ensure maximum water conservation.

Sustainable Gardening

Part of our 22 acres has been devoted to growing non-GMO fruit, vegetables, and flowers for arrangements in Manor Dining as well as in the suites, avoiding all herbicides, pesticides, and chemical fertilizers. Products that cannot be home-grown are sourced from local farmers and producers, reducing our carbon footprint. The remainder of the property benefits from responsible land stewardship that enhances the natural ecosystem and old-growth forests.

Pursuing Local-First

In addition to partnerships with local food and beverage producers, we are proud to support the artists and artisans in our community. This can be seen in the products in our rooms, including the in-room gift from Salt Spring Chocolate, and retail items from a number of local artists and artisans in our gift shop.

Salt Spring Info

Salt Spring Island is approximately 29 kilometers long and varies from 3 to 16 kilometers wide. There are almost 800 kilometers of road winding past lakes, across farmlands, and through wooded areas with frequent views of the ocean, other islands, and the mainland mountains. In the town of Ganges, you will find many essential services along with bakeries, cafés, shopping, and restaurants.
The following might be useful for you during your stay:

Salt Spring Car Rentals

124 Upper Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2S2
250-537-3122 | rentals@saltspringmarina.com

Ganges Post Office

109 Purvis Lane, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1A0
250-537-2321

Salt Spring Marina

124 Upper Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2S2
250-537-5810 | info@saltspringmarina.com

Salt Spring Island Public Library

129 McPhillips Ave, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T5
250-537-4666

Emergency Services

Call 911 for police, fire, ambulance, Search and Rescue, and Coast Guard services.

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

105 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC Canada V8K 2T1
250-537-2531

Lady Minto's Hospital

135 Crofton Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2R8
250-538-4800

Activities

Salt Spring's many galleries, together with its markets, arts exhibits, organic farmers and food producers have given the island an international reputation as a hotbed of world-class artists and organic farmers. The following is a list of activities easily accessible from Hastings House:

Picnics and Platters

Salt Spring has a number of excellent picnic spots, with Ruckle Provincial Park being the most popular. Our knowledgeable staff would be happy to recommend the ideal picnic spot for your excursion.

Hastings House offers a picnic lunch or cheese platter option that can be ordered by 5:00 pm and picked up or delivered to your suite after 11:00 am the next morning.

Erskine Picnic	Croissant sandwich with assorted cheeses, fresh fruit, sweets, and two bottles of mineral water.
Cheese Platter	Selection of Salt Spring Island cheeses with West Coast crisps and fresh fruit.

Hiking and Walking

Salt Spring's magnificent vistas, numerous trails, and natural beauty make it an excellent location for hikes and walks. From a leisurely ramble to a challenging climb up a mountain face, there are trails and hiking routes for every level of physical fitness. Maps indicating trails are available at Reception. Visit our blog to read about our favourite hikes and walks!

Swimming

Freshwater or salt, the choice is yours. Some beaches are ideally suited for play and paddling, others for quiet and contemplation. There are no lifeguards stationed at any of Salt Spring's beaches or lakes, so please exercise caution.

Beaches

Beddis Beach, at the end of Beddis Road, is beautiful and sandy.

Vesuvius Beach, at the end of Langley Road, offers the warmest water on the island.

Bader's Beach, at the end of Collins Road, is a popular kayak launch site.

Churchill Beach, at the end of Churchill Road right by Hastings House, is quiet and peaceful.

Lakes

St. Mary's Lake can be accessed from North End Road or Tripp Road. It is popular with local families and is the closest lake to the hotel.

Weston Lake is one of the most beautiful lakes on the island and is near the Cheese Farm.

Stowell Lake has a short dock and is another popular spot for families off Beaver Point Road.
Cusheon Lake has a small public wharf and is located on Cusheon Road.

Salt Spring's Renowned Saturday Market

From April through October, a festive market is the centre of activity in Ganges from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Farmers' stalls abound with produce and artisanal foods and beverages. At the market, you will also find artists, photographers, designers, and makers of all sorts of handcrafted items displaying and selling their creations from ceramics and jewelry to woodwork and fibre arts. Strolling through the market is a feast for the senses, and its over 120 vendors contribute to Salt Spring's international reputation as a hotbed of world-class artists and organic farmers. There is also a farmer's market on Tuesdays in the summer months. www.saltspringmarket.com

Outdoor Adventures

Kayak Salt Spring

Kayak Salt Spring offers a variety of private kayak tours for two to six people. Enjoy a guided 3-hour paddle along Walker's Hook or 2-hour tours of Long Harbour or Sansum Narrows. Kayak Salt Spring also offers a 4 to 5-hour kayak trip to Prevost Island.
250-537-9835 | kayaksaltspring@gmail.com

Sail Gulf Islands

Enjoy a morning or afternoon sail with Captain George Harris! Starting from Fernwood Dock, Sail Gulf Islands offers two, four, and six-hour tours that will get you out on the water on the Sandpiper, a 35-foot Coronado sailboat.
250-539-9987 | galianosailingcharters.com

SSI Reel Action Charters

Indulge in a personalized fishing charter aboard a custom-built 24ft Northwest Aluminum boat. With a fully-enclosed heated cabin and the most up-to-date fishing equipment, all charters are kept to a maximum size of 4 to ensure you have the room to reel in your catch.
250-537-6613 | ssireelaction@ssireelaction.ca

Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club

This 9-hole regulation course is 3,100 yards, par 36, with a course rating of 67. It is a beautifully scenic course with clubs and power carts available to rent. Located on Lower Ganges Road, the course is not far from Hastings House.
250-537-2121

Salt Spring Island Cheese Co.

Salt Spring Island Cheese Company specializes in hand packaged artisan goat cheeses. Enjoy a visit to the farm shop for samples. You can also watch the cheese being made through the viewing windows or enjoy a wood-fired pizza or gelato in the outdoor café.
250-653-2300 | info@saltspringcheese.com

Seasonal Beverage Tastings (hours may vary)

Garry Oaks Winery

Garry Oaks works its vineyard by hand to produce naturally small lots of original wines. Visit its terraced vineyard overlooking the beautiful Burgoyne Valley, walk the labyrinth, and taste their award-winning wines, all of which are grown entirely in their own vineyard.
250-653-4687 | https://garryoakswinery.com/visit/

Kutatás Winery

The newest winery on Salt Spring, Kutatás offers tastings and the opportunity to sit and have your own picnic in the vineyard. What a wonderful opportunity to taste their wines and enjoy one of Hastings House's gourmet picnics. This vineyard is just a few kilometres from the hotel past Country Grocer.
250-800-5552 | info@kutataswines.com

Vivezza Vineyard

Vivezza Vineyard is the newest vineyard on Salt Spring Island. They offer tastings Saturday and Sunday 1:00 – 5:00pm and a robust selection of wines from traditional wines like Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir to the modern series, including Corivese and Petite Milo. Vivezza is at 1625 North End Road.
www.vivezza.com

Salt Spring Island Ales (Salt Spring Brewing Co.)

Fresh spring water is combined with organic Canadian two row pale malt and other natural ingredients to create a lineup of distinctly island-made ales. Visit the tasting room and patio to sample this beer brewed entirely by hand in small batches using traditional, unhurried methods.
778-354-1121 | info@saltspringislandales.com

Salt Spring Shine

Salt Spring Shine is a small family-owned artisanal distillery. All their spirits are made from the fermentation of local honey and are crafted and bottled on Salt Spring.
250-221-0728

Salt Spring Wild Cider

Owned and operated by a philosopher and a stone sculptor, Salt Spring Wild developed out of a passion to create quality cider from the wild apples that grow on Salt Spring Island. Enjoy a tasting flight or a full meal at the restaurant and outdoor patio.
250-931-5554 | wild@saltspringwildcider.com

Sweetwater Distilling

Sweetwater Distilling is the newest distillery on Salt Spring and is quickly becoming renowned for its smooth and elegant Mt. Erskine Vodka, herb-infused gins, apple brandy, and Nocino walnut liqueur.
(778) 353-0360 | info@sweetwaterdistilling.ca

Nearby Galleries

Artcraft, Mahon Hall

All summer, Mahon Hall hosts an artist sponsored sale of local arts and crafts featuring the works of over 100 artisans of all major guilds. The hall is located in the centre of town next to the primary school.

Gallery 8

Gallery 8 presents the work of many excellent Gulf Island artists, both established an emerging, and showcases a broad range of media. The gallery is conveniently located in Grace Point Square.
250-537-8822

Glass Foundry

The Glass Foundry is one of the closest artist's workshops to the hotel, and the gallery displays a unique array of stunning bowls, vases, and whimsical giftware items. Upon arrival, you'll notice a collection of vintage glass insulator caps, part art installation, part historic museum piece!
250-537-9200

Jill Louise Campbell Art Gallery

Artist Jill Louise Campbell has owned and operated a gallery in the heart of Ganges on Salt Spring Island for almost 25 years. Her store-front gallery is bursting with the energy and colour that Jill's artwork is known for. The gallery is located just opposite the Treehouse Café.
250-537-1589 | jlcgallery@gmail.com

Salt Spring Gallery

This gallery of local artists presents emerging artists at a bright location just next to the library.
250-931-0011

Steffich Fine Art

Steffich Fine Art is a wonderful gallery of Canadian art and is the representative of Lyman Whitaker, whose charming wind sculptures can be seen on the property at Hastings House.
250-537-8448

Waterfront Gallery

The Waterfront Gallery showcases the art and products of 100 local artists and artisans. A charming spot just beside the post office, this boutique is a wonderful place to browse for gifts.
250-537-4525

History

In the late 1930s, Warren and Barbara Hastings moved to Salt Spring Island from Sussex, England. They purchased this property as a farm in 1939 and lived in the original farmhouse while planning the construction of the Manor House. A prominent naval architect, he and Barbara enjoyed a full and storied life here until 1980 when they moved to Sidney on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

At that time, Canadian hoteliers Donald & Shan Cross from Calgary, Alberta purchased the property with dreams of creating an elegant, country-style resort. They knew this land had a soul. The Hastings were very supportive of their concept and hoped that the history would remain intact. Likewise, the Crosses were determined that the necessary renovations and restorations would not alter the gentle, comfortable feeling of the property. They envisioned a tranquil retreat for discriminating guests, offering "luxury without pretension."

In the fall of 1981, after twenty months of construction using only Salt Spring contractors, Hastings House Country House Hotel opened for business. Over the next fourteen years, the ten-room hotel developed a worldwide reputation, with many guests returning year after year.

Two such guests, Bonny O'Connor and Jerry Parks, were so enchanted when they first came in 1986 that they returned for eight straight years. In April 1995, on learning that the Crosses planned to put Hastings House up for sale, they immediately made an offer to purchase the property and the closing date was set for the end of that season. During these months, they made several visits to Hastings House to learn as much as possible about the hotel's operations. They even made a special visit to Mr. and Mrs. Hastings in Sidney when Warren was ninety-five years old.

For Bonny and Jerry, owning and running Hastings House Country House Hotel continues to be a labour of love. They see Hastings House as a getaway from all the concrete and lights of the city, a sanctuary for rest, rejuvenation, and indulgence. In this way, they carry on the legacy created by Shan and Donald Cross in the spirit of Warren and Barbara Hastings, keeping the property's history intact by providing luxury accommodations in a uniquely calm and beautiful setting while delivering exceptional dining, wellness, and relaxation.

In 2021, Hastings House celebrated two important milestones – forty years as a distinguished boutique hotel and twenty-five wonderful years under the ownership of Bonny O'Connor and Jerry Parks!

For a complete history, see Hastings House Then and Now for sale in Reception or the history series on our blog at www.hastingshouse.com/blog.

RELAIS & CHATEAUX

Established over half a century ago in 1954, Relais & Châteaux is an association of the world's finest hoteliers, chefs, and restaurateurs, setting the standard for excellence in hospitality. It represents more than 580 landmark hotels and restaurants operated by independent innkeepers, chefs, and owners who share a passion for their businesses and a desire for authenticity in their relationships with their clientele.

Relais & Châteaux is established around the globe, from the Napa Valley vineyards and French Provence to the beaches of the Indian Ocean. It offers an introduction to a lifestyle inspired by local culture and a unique dip into human history.

Relais & Châteaux members are driven by the desire to protect and promote the richness and diversity of the world's cuisine and traditions of hospitality. They are committed to preserving local heritage and the environment, as encompassed in the Charter that was presented to UNESCO in November 2014.

In a world that is rich in its differences, people from all cultures have always placed importance on two timeless traditions: Cuisine and Hospitality. Throughout history, these two traditions have contributed to happiness, fellowship and the art of living well, or what the French call "*l'art de vivre*." It's therefore vital to our humanity that cuisine and hospitality be cherished, preserved and continually revived, ensuring both can always play a role in our capacity to live well together.

At Relais & Châteaux, we know that others share these beliefs and have similar humanitarian goals, and we wish to work with them to support a mission focused on making a better world: A principal objective of Relais & Châteaux is "to make the world a better place through cuisine and hospitality," and to elevate the *arts de vivre*.

"How beautiful it is to do nothing, and then to rest afterward."

- Spanish Proverb