



ROOM AT THE INN

British Columbia is a haven for the lesbian traveller or couple. We take a tour of Laurel Point Inn with *Jodie Haslam*.

Visitors to British Columbia are often taken by the region's beauty. Located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, here, majestic vegetation thrives, the Pacific Ocean sparkles, and many lesbians tie the knot. And the perfect place for a lesbian wedding or a romantic escape is the sophisticated, modern and tranquil Laurel Point Inn.

The Inn emphasises the natural beauty of its surrounds and matches it with its interiors: the luxurious Erickson wing and the freshly updated Laurel Wing with their special decor and spectacular views. Price points for every purse are also enticing. Jodie Haslam (pictured bottom right), who works as financial controller and board member of the Inn thinks of it as "a beautiful woman standing gracefully, arms open on the foreshore of the picturesque harbour waiting to welcome a love once lost but now found."

The Inn has always been lesbian-friendly. "As an out and proud lesbian, I was made to feel at ease and fully accepted when I started my employment at the Inn nine years ago. Prejudice of any type was not tolerated by the owners or staff. Our lesbian travellers experience a freedom and comfort to be themselves in a setting that provides million dollar views from a private sanctuary only a casual stroll from downtown shops and activity."

Lesbians will especially enjoy a friendly greeting on arrival from front desk staff, the natural light and fresh ocean air that merge quite seamlessly with indoor sophistication, and an enriching list of features and services to be enjoyed. Sit on your balcony and enjoy unobstructed views or enjoy an in-room couples massage, chic dining in Aura restaurant, or if you care to wander, a night out at one of Victoria's recommended trendy nightclubs. If you're sporty, the temperate weather accommodates golfing and other year-round activities.

And how about that lesbian romance? "Put it this way," says Haslam, "If you want to 'wow' your partner, date or wife on a romantic getaway, if you didn't have her captivated as you strolled the infamous blue carpet along the magnificent glass Terrace Room that opens to the tranquil pond and Japanese garden, or when passing the museum quality art work that adorns our walls and showcases, then I guarantee the moment she opens the shoji doors and lays eyes on the luxurious marble spa-like bathroom that complements every suite in the Erickson Wing... she's got to be there."

And lesbian weddings? In the past two years the Inn has entertained four full lesbian weddings complete with ceremony, dinner and dance, as well as countless intimate ceremonies that took place on guest balconies overlooking the spectacular inner harbour or by the waterfall in the picturesque Japanese garden. Whether it's romance, rejuvenation or a royal wedding, consider a visit to Laurel Point Inn. ■■■



■■■ INFORMATION

Nice Package Includes 1 night in a luxurious Studio Suite or Guestroom King, spectacular water view, bath experience basket, breakfast in bed, chocolate decadent dessert, rose petal turn-down, sparkling wine, 2pm check out and complimentary parking.

Naughty Package Breakfast in bed, late check out, valet parking and "naughty" love kit full of mischievous surprises.

Butchart Gardens Package Includes accommodation, admission for 2 to the Butchart Gardens, 55 acres designed to please the eye and delight the senses, \$40 food and beverage credit and parking.

Go to laurelpointinn.com