



**Square Miles:** 55.3  
**Population:** approximately 7,500

**Unique Features:** The west side for whale watching and the San Juan Island National Historical Park. Foot passenger-accessible Friday Harbor.

**Visitor Center:** At the Chamber of Commerce in Friday Harbor.

San Juan Island features the walkable historic seaport of Friday Harbor, where visitors arriving without cars can easily get around on foot. Seasonal passenger ferry service from many mainland locations adds to car ferry and flight options. Ideal for small meetings and board retreats, Friday Harbor is known for a large concentration of boutiques, galleries, restaurants, and performing arts at the San Juan Community Theatre.

Friday Harbor is also home to The Whale Museum which educates about whale watching guidelines and the Islands' famous resident orca whales, now the official Washington State marine mammal and an Endangered Species. Approximately 85 orcas make their home in the San Juans with most sightings, typically, from May through the end of September. Some of the best shore-based whale watching in the world is here. Orcas can be seen near the



Richard Duval



# SAN JUAN ISLAND



**Media Contact:**  
Robin Jacobson  
360.378.6822 ext.6  
robin@visitsanjuans.com

**Travel Trade Contact:**  
Deborah Hopkins  
360.378.6822 ext.5  
deborah@visitsanjuans.com

**Visitor Information:**  
888.468.3701 ext.1  
info@visitsanjuans.com  
www.VisitSanJuans.com  
P.O. Box 1330  
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

shoreline, most easily from the west side of the island at South Beach, Lime Kiln Point State Park (also known as "Whale Watch Park") or from San Juan County Park. Another popular option, combining wildlife watching with adventure afloat, is to go aboard a commercial whale watching boat with onboard marine naturalists.

The historical village of Roche Harbor is known for its 1886 Hotel de Haro, Victorian gardens and the nearby Westcott Bay Sculpture Park with over 100 sculptures. Other island attractions include an alpaca farm, lavender farm, sea farm, winery and vineyard.

Delve into the past at the Historical Museum or San Juan Island National Historical Park where exhibits, historic buildings and re-enactors bring to life The Pig War, a 12-year standoff between British and American troops in the late 1800s. Maritime history and native heritage are so vibrant and alive that the past tense has little use here. Follow in the steps of those who truly had an adventure being here.

Journey to where lush cedar forests lead to pristine seas of blue and stars twinkle brighter in the night sky. Enjoy some of Washington State's endless discoveries island style - where the arts, history and natural wonders intrigue and enrich. Visit the San Juan Islands of Washington State! See why Orbitz named the San Juans to its "Seven Hotspots for 2007" list, inviting travelers to "see the world through very unique travel experiences."



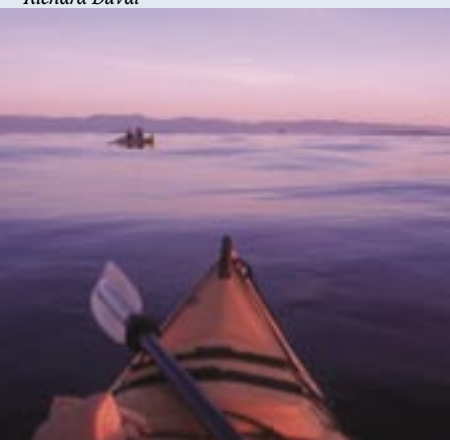
Mark B. Gardner



Robert Demar



Michael Bertrand



Arts & Agriculture • Outdoor Adventure & Watchable Wildlife • Romantic Discoveries

## Experience Paradise in the Pacific Northwest

The San Juan Islands exist not only as gems in Washington's famed archipelago, but also as a state of mind. Experience an island culture borne of geographic seclusion and resilient spirit, where art and nature converge and enrich each other and outdoor adventure and marine stewardship intensify experiential learning. The San Juans are nestled between three great cities - Seattle, Vancouver B.C. (home of the 2010 Winter Olympics) and Victoria B.C., surrounded by the Salish Sea. Of the 172 named islands in the San Juans, three of them - Lopez, Orcas and San Juan - have accommodations, attractions and amenities for visitors.

Getting here is half the fun! Take a scenic 30-45 minute flight from Seattle in an airplane or seaplane. Or drive an hour and a half north of Seattle to the ferry terminal in Anacortes (or south from Vancouver, B.C.) and board a Washington State Ferry. Ferry fares from Anacortes include round-trip travel, making the trip back free and easy.

With a temperate marine climate unique in the Pacific Northwest, San Juan County has more than 400 miles of rocky and sandy waterfront. Life in the "rain shadow" of the Olympic Mountains means an average of 247 days with sunshine annually and about half the rain of the mainland. Spring and fall are especially enticing, when the weather and serenity combine for a memorable visit.

This is one of the most biologically diverse places on the planet - and one of the most fragile. All of us are encouraged to tread lightly and "Leave Only Footprints."

Watchable wildlife abounds. View porpoises, seals, sea lions, orca whales and occasionally humpback, minke and gray whales. On land, watch for red fox and bald eagles. Migratory birds, including trumpeter swans, winter on lakes and wetlands. Transient and indigenous species make this one of the best wildlife viewing areas in the world.

Be seduced by true "Island Time" in a place without stoplights or bridges to any of the islands. Experience farmers markets, restaurants serving island-grown organic produce, local history museums, performing arts centers, galleries, artist studio tours, waterfront parks and wildlife cruises. Sea kayaking, hiking, biking, birding and scuba diving are popular outdoor activities. Special events and cultural festivals occur year-round. Destination weddings are extremely popular, with all professional services available locally for the traditional or most unique weddings. Romantic getaways and honeymoons are enjoyed year-round in the Islands.

From B&Bs, inns and suites to resorts, hotels, motels, cabins, cottages, homes or campgrounds, the choices are abundant for vacations or shorter getaways on a whim.



Marie DiCristina



Eric Anderson



Robert Demar

Robert Demar



Mark B. Gardner

# LOPEZ ISLAND

**Square Miles:** 29.5

**Population:** approximately 2,400

**Unique Features:** Pastoral farmland on the most level island - a bicyclist's dream. The quickest, yet most rural, getaway destination from the mainland.

**Visitor Center:** At the Chamber of Commerce in Lopez Village.

Lopez Island is the first ferry stop on the route from Anacortes. There's an authentic rural charm and a spirit of community that confirms the mainland has been left behind. The landscape blends woods with pastoral farmland, meadows and shimmering vistas. Lopez is home to an eclectic mix of artisans, musicians, farmers, and nature lovers.

Walk along the beaches and trails of Spencer Spit State Park or Odlin County Park. Follow the trail to the beach through the dense forest of cedar trees and mossy rocks of Shark Reef Sanctuary, a timeless experience. Visit the winery and vineyard or just sit still with binoculars and observe the ever-present wildlife. Kayak in the protected waters of Fisherman Bay.

Exploring Lopez Village, the activity center of the island, is on everyone's list. Be sure to sample the local bounty of organic produce and meats. Indulge yourself with freshly-baked goodies. Browse village shops for local arts and crafts to take home, preserving the memories. Learn about maritime and native history at the Historical Museum. Check out the performing arts schedule at the Lopez Center. The Farmer's Market each Saturday, May through September, is always a culinary and cultural treat.

Biking along country roads on the most level of the three main islands is a long-favored tradition. *The Tour de Lopez*, a non-competitive bicycle tour through the scenic landscape of Lopez Island, is an annual event on the last weekend in April. It's an opportunity for families and friends to experience the springtime beauty of the countryside.

A Lopez state of mind is a quintessential island phenomenon. Hard to describe, it leaves a lasting impression and an invitation to return and absorb the rural nature of the island.



Eric Anderson



Eric Anderson

**Square Miles:** 56.9

**Population:** approximately 4,900

**Unique Features:** Panoramic view atop easily accessible 2,409-foot Mount Constitution. Hamlets beside sheltered harbors and coves.

**Visitor Center:** At the Chamber of Commerce in Eastsound Village.

Art, activities and agriculture flourish on Orcas Island, the largest and most geographically diverse of the San Juans. It is home to a mix of nestled hamlets and villages, lush forests, farm valleys, placid lakes and stunning mountains. For well over a hundred years, artists and artisans have been creating in the golden light of its meadows and shorelines.

Deer Harbor, Eastsound Village, Olga, and Orcas Village are all popular stops with an array of art galleries, potteries, island arts and crafts, shops and restaurants. Learn of Coast Salish history at the Historical Museum. Take in the performing arts at Orcas Center. Tour the historic Moran Mansion, an island treasure at Rosario Resort & Spa on pristine Cascade Bay.



Carl Silvernail



Robert Demar

# ORCAS ISLAND

The panoramic view of islands, water and mountains from atop 2,409-foot Mount Constitution is a must-see. It's possible to drive within 100 steps of the top, then walk to the viewing area or climb to the top of the observation tower. Moran State Park also offers camping, lakes and tranquil trails leading to waterfalls in lush cedar forests.

Whether it's at a secluded vacation cabin in the woods, a working farm, an elegant Bed & Breakfast or historic resort, Orcas Island fulfills dreams every day.



Eric Anderson

Mark B. Gardner

