

**Sally Sharp & Jon Thomas**  
Oak Harbor Yacht Club  
June 20, 2026



## **Welcome to Whidbey Island**

### **A Things to Do & Places to Stay Guide for Our June 20, 2026 Wedding Guests**

#### **Oak Harbor, Washington**

We are so grateful that you are traveling to Oak Harbor, Washington, to celebrate with us on June 20, 2026. Many of you will be coming from out of state, and Whidbey Island offers an exceptional opportunity to turn this trip into a memorable Pacific Northwest getaway. This guide is designed to help you plan your stay, explore the island and surrounding regions, and take advantage of unique experiences before or after the wedding weekend.

Whidbey Island stretches nearly 55 miles from north to south and is easily accessible by bridge from the North or via ferry from the South. It combines dramatic coastal scenery, historic military forts, charming seaside towns, award-winning food and drink, and convenient access to both Seattle and British Columbia. June is an especially beautiful time of year, with long daylight hours, mild temperatures, and seasonal festivals.

June is peak travel season in the Pacific Northwest. We strongly recommend booking accommodations, ferries, and tours well in advance. Rental cars are advisable for most itineraries, as public transportation options on the island are limited.

We hope this guide helps you make the most of your time on Whidbey Island and beyond. We are truly honored that you are traveling to celebrate with us and look forward to sharing this special place with you.



## Getting Oriented: Whidbey Island & Beyond

Oak Harbor is located on the north end of Whidbey Island. It is home to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, which also explains the availability of military lodging for eligible guests. From Oak Harbor, most island destinations are within a 45-minute drive, and ferry terminals provide access to the San Juan Islands, Port Townsend, and Canada.

Visitors should be aware that ferry travel can require planning, particularly in summer. Reservations are strongly recommended where available, and travel times should account for seasonal demand.

Blue Fox Drive In opened in 1959 and continues to accommodate 280 cars per night. It earned the name from a repossessed sign, surviving the decline of other drive-ins, and a wind storm in 1988 that destroyed the screen. The venue operates nightly in the summer, offering 2 shows starting at 7 pm, a snack bar, and go cart track.



## Outdoor Adventures & Natural Highlights

### State Parks & Trails

Whidbey Island is renowned for its extensive state park system, offering some of the most scenic hiking and coastal views in Washington.

**Fort Ebey State Park** features dramatic bluff trails overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca. It is particularly popular for hiking, photography, and watching the sunset over the Olympic Mountains.



**Fort Casey State Park** combines expansive waterfront views with historic military structures and the iconic Admiralty Head Lighthouse. It is easily accessible and ideal for casual exploration.

**Deception Pass State Park** is one of Washington's most visited parks. The Deception Pass Bridge, turquoise waters, forested trails, and rugged coastline make it a must-see destination, particularly for first-time visitors to the region.



### Lavender Wind Farm

The Whidbey Island lavender fields, often referred to collectively as the lavender wind farm area, typically reach peak bloom in late June and early July. Guests visiting around the wedding weekend may catch early blooms, with fragrant fields, gift shops, and scenic farmland views.

## Island Towns & Film History



### Coupeville

**Coupeville** is one of the oldest towns in Washington and is known for its preserved historic waterfront. Fans of the film *Practical Magic* will recognize Coupeville as one of the filming locations, making it a popular stop for movie enthusiasts. The town also offers local shops, restaurants, and easy access to nearby parks.



## Langley

Located on the south end of the island, **Langley** is an arts-focused village with galleries, cafes, and waterfront views. It is also home to several wineries, a distillery, and lodging options, making it ideal for a quieter, romantic stay.

## Ferry Adventures & Day Trips



### San Juan Islands

Ferries from **Anacortes** provide access to the San Juan Islands, including Friday Harbor. These islands are known for whale watching, kayaking, boutique shopping, and picturesque harbors.



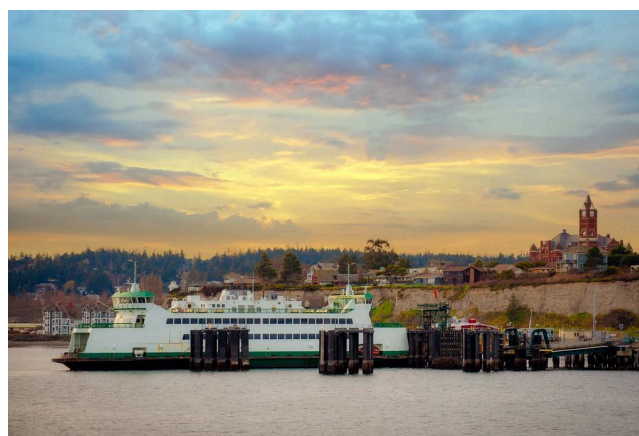
### Whale Watching

Anacortes is a major departure point for whale watching tours. Orcas, humpbacks, and gray whales are commonly spotted during the summer months, making this a highlight experience for many visitors.

### Port Townsend

The ferry from Coupeville to **Port Townsend** offers a scenic crossing to a Victorian seaport town known for its preserved architecture, maritime culture, and walkable downtown. A car is strongly recommended to explore more of the town and peninsula.

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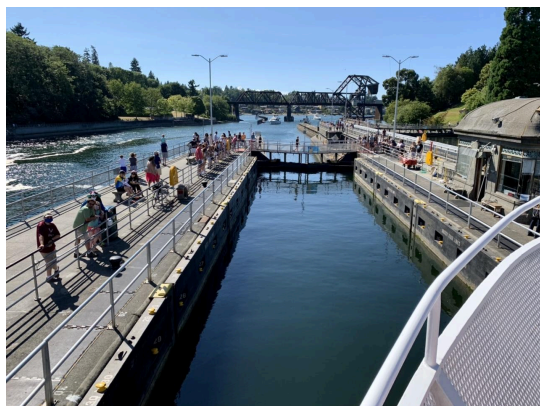


## Seattle & Regional Attractions

Seattle is approximately a 1.5- to 2-hour drive from Oak Harbor, depending on traffic and ferry choices. You may choose to pair the wedding with time in the city.



Notable attractions include **Pike Place Market**, the historic waterfront market featuring local vendors and the original Starbucks location; the **Space Needle**, with panoramic views of the city and Puget Sound;



and **Ballard Locks**, where visitors can observe boats transitioning between freshwater and saltwater while watching salmon navigate the fish ladders.

The **Seattle Underground Tour** and **Duck Tours** offer guided, family-friendly ways to explore the city's history.



Guests interested in sightseeing efficiency may wish to explore **Seattle CityPASS**, which bundles several attractions.

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## Canada Excursions (Passport Required)



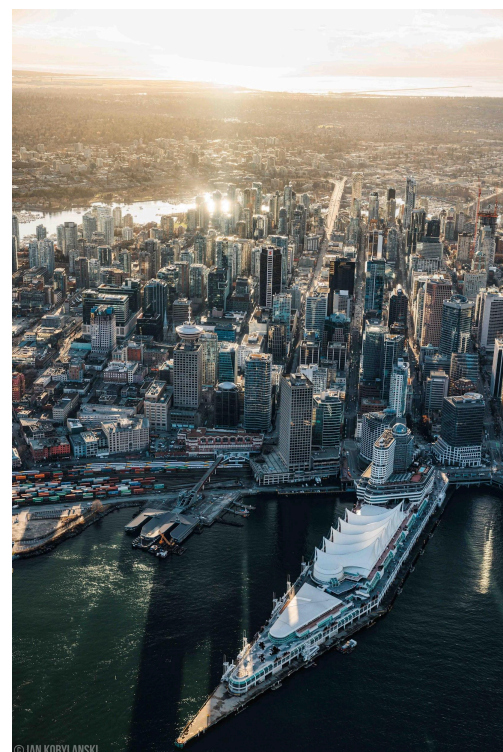
### Victoria, British Columbia

Ferries from Anacortes provide access to **Victoria**, a walkable city known for its Inner Harbour, historic architecture, and gardens. A passport is required, and a rental car is recommended for exploring beyond downtown.



### Vancouver, British Columbia

**Vancouver** offers world-class dining, shopping, and outdoor activities. This city is about as far from Oak Harbor as Seattle. While farther than Victoria, it can be paired with Seattle for guests seeking a larger international city experience.



Passport processing is fairly quick right now. You can visit <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html> to process a new passport or renew your passport. (Sally received her renewal within 2 weeks.)

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### **World Cup Soccer (Summer 2026)**

The **FIFA World Cup 2026** will take place during the summer of 2026, with matches hosted in both **Seattle** and **Vancouver**. You may incorporate a match into your travel plans while visiting the Pacific Northwest.

Seattle matches are accessible by car or ferry from Whidbey Island, though guests should anticipate increased traffic and higher lodging demand on match days. Vancouver matches require a valid passport and additional travel time, and guests should plan accommodations and transportation well in advance. Even for those who are not attending matches, World Cup events may increase regional tourism and affect availability in major cities during this period.

## Breweries, Wineries & Distilleries



Whidbey Island and nearby towns offer an impressive craft beverage scene.

**Breweries** include Double Bluff Brewing in Clinton, Rockfish Brewing and Bastion Brewing Company in Anacortes, San Juan Brewing in Friday Harbor, Wicket Teuton Brewing Company in Oak Harbor, Thirsty Crab Brewery in Clinton, and Misfit Island Cider Company in Langley.

**Wineries** to consider are Spoiled Dog Winery, Comforts of Whidbey Winery and B&B, Holmes Harbor Cellars in Greenbank, Dancing Fish Vineyards in Freeland, and Ott & Hunter Wines in Langley.

For spirits, **Whidbey Island Distillery** offers locally produced whiskey and tasting experiences.

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## Breweries & Cideries

### **Double Bluff Brewing Company (Clinton)**

A small, well-loved Whidbey Island brewery known for approachable craft beers and a relaxed taproom atmosphere.

<https://www.dblfbrewing.com>

### **Wicket Teuton Brewing Company (Oak Harbor)**

A European-inspired brewery producing traditional-style beers with careful craftsmanship, located close to the wedding venue.

<https://www.wicketteuton.com>

### **Bastion Brewing Company (Anacortes)**

A casual brewery and BBQ spot near the ferry terminal, offering house-brewed beers and a full food menu.

<https://www.bastionbrewery.com>

### **San Juan Island Brewing Company (Friday Harbor)**

A community-focused brewery within walking distance of the ferry, ideal for guests visiting the San Juan Islands.

<https://www.sanjuanbrew.com>

### **Misfit Island Cider Company (Langley)**

A locally owned cidery offering dry, creative ciders in a lively tasting room in downtown Langley.

<https://www.misfitislandcidercompany.com>

## Wineries & Distillery

### **Spoiled Dog Winery (Langley)**

A boutique winery with a welcoming tasting room and a relaxed, village feel.

<https://www.spoiledogwinery.com>

### **Ott & Hunter Wines (Langley)**

An intimate winery offering small-production wines and a cozy tasting experience in downtown Langley.

<https://www.ottandhunterwines.com>

### **Comforts of Whidbey Winery & B&B; (Langley)**

A winery and bed & breakfast set in pastoral surroundings, ideal for an extended stay or relaxed tasting.

<https://www.comfortsofwhidbey.com>

### **Holmes Harbor Cellars (Greenbank)**

One of Whidbey Island's established wineries, featuring vineyard views and a classic tasting room experience.

<https://www.holmesharborcellars.com>

### **Dancing Fish Vineyards (Freeland)**

A scenic vineyard and tasting room offering wines inspired by local terroir and Whidbey Island landscapes.

<https://www.dancingfishvineyards.com>

### **Whidbey Island Distillery (Langley)**

A small-batch distillery producing locally crafted spirits, including whiskey, with tastings available.

<https://www.whidbeyislanddistillery.com>

## Seasonal Events

Guests arriving early or staying after the wedding may enjoy **Berry Dairy Days**, held June 19–21, 2026, in nearby Burlington. This long-running festival features parades, food vendors, and family-friendly entertainment.

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## Lodging Recommendations



### Oak Harbor Area

For proximity to the wedding, options include the Navy Lodge Whidbey Island for eligible military guests, Best Western Plus Oak Harbor, and The Coachman Inn.

### South Whidbey & Langley

Guests seeking a quieter, boutique experience may prefer Captain Whidbey, Saratoga Inn in Langley, or Comforts of Whidbey Winery and B&B.



### Anacortes & Burlington

Ship Harbor Inn in Anacortes is ideal for ferry access to the San Juans and whale watching. Burlington offers reliable national hotel options such as Hampton Inn & Suites and Fairfield Inn & Suites, conveniently located near Interstate 5.

### Port Townsend

The Tide Inn & Suites and The Swan Hotel are excellent choices when paired with ferry travel from Coupeville.



## Family Photos at the Wedding



### Family Photos at the Wedding

#### Attire and Preparation Guidance for Family Members

We are looking forward to taking **family photographs during the wedding celebration** at the **Oak Harbor Yacht Club**. These photographs will be part of the formal wedding photography and will serve as lasting keepsakes for our families. We are grateful for your participation and appreciate your help in creating a cohesive and timeless look for these images.

Because these photos will be taken on the wedding day in a nautical waterfront setting, we have selected a khaki-and-white color palette for family members included in the photographs. This color scheme complements the Yacht Club environment, marina backdrop, and summer light, while remaining classic, neutral, and easy to coordinate across multiple family groups.

#### Color Palette and Overall Look

Khaki and white were chosen specifically because they photograph exceptionally well in outdoor and waterfront settings. These tones reflect light naturally, reduce visual distractions in group photos, and allow faces and expressions to remain the focal point. The palette also aligns with the overall aesthetic of our wedding and helps ensure that family photos look coordinated without appearing overly styled or formal.

Family members do not need to wear identical outfits. Instead, we encourage **coordinated attire within the khaki and white palette**. This approach allows each person to dress in a way that feels comfortable and appropriate for them while still contributing to a unified appearance in group photographs.

Examples of appropriate combinations include khaki pants, skirts, or shorts paired with white shirts or blouses; white dresses or outfits accented with khaki elements; or white tops with khaki accessories such as belts, shoes, or light layers. Subtle variations within the palette, such as cream, off-white, or light tan, are perfectly acceptable and often add visual depth without breaking cohesion.

### **What to Avoid for Photos**

To help maintain a clean and timeless look in the photographs, we prefer avoiding bold patterns, bright or saturated colors, dark tones, large logos, and prominent graphics. These elements can draw attention away from faces and disrupt the overall balance of group images. Simple, solid colors within the khaki and white range tend to produce the most flattering and consistent results.

June weather on Whidbey Island is typically mild but can vary throughout the day, particularly near the water. Lightweight layers are encouraged for comfort, provided they remain within the color palette.

### **Apparel Resources**

For convenience, the following retailers offer a wide selection of khaki and white clothing options suitable for adults and children. These brands provide a range of styles from casual to polished, making it easier to coordinate across generations while maintaining individual comfort and preference.

- **Banana Republic**

- <https://bananarepublic.gap.com>

- Known for classic silhouettes, elevated basics, and neutral tones that photograph well in formal and semi-formal settings.

- **Gap**

- <https://www.gap.com>

- Offers accessible, family-friendly clothing options, including coordinated styles for men, women, and children in khaki and white.

- **Dockers**

- <https://us.dockers.com>

- A reliable option for khaki pants and neutral separates that balance comfort with structure.

These links are provided simply as a helpful starting point. Guests are welcome to shop wherever they prefer.

### **Day-of Photography Notes**

Family photographs will be coordinated as part of the wedding timeline. Additional details regarding timing and groupings will be shared closer to the wedding date. We kindly ask family members participating in photos to arrive dressed and ready as scheduled, as this helps the photography process move smoothly and allows more time to enjoy the celebration.

Thank you for helping us create beautiful and cohesive family photographs on our wedding day. We truly appreciate your care and participation.