

# Breezing in to natural beauty

## B&Bs OF B.C.

Each week throughout the summer The Vancouver Sun will visit one of our province's unique lodgings. Today we visit Gibsons on the Sechelt Peninsula.

BY JEFF LUKOVICH

SPECIAL TO THE VANCOUVER SUN

**B**ed and Breakfasts have come a long way in the last few years. Many boast amenities that rival the most luxurious hotels. Others offer a wide range of value-added features including bodywork/spa treatments, romance packages or kayaking and cycling adventures.

Despite the upscale trend, unlike hotel chains, no two bed and breakfasts are alike. Each has its own personality, and that personality is usually a reflection of the owner's interests, passions and sensibilities.

Each Saturday over the summer, we will take you inside a different B&B in BC that reflects some of this diversity. Hope you enjoy your stay.

### What:

Ocean Breezes Bed and Breakfast

### Contact Info:

Donna and Ralph, Tel: 1-877-886-7104/604-886-7105, email: info@oceanbreezes.ca. web: www.oceanbreezes.ca.

### Where:

In Gibsons on the Sunshine Coast, Ocean Breezes is a 10 minute drive from the Langdale Ferry Terminal after a 45-minute BC Ferries cruise from Horse-shoe Bay.

Located on high-bank waterfront on Gower Point Road, it offers sweeping views of Georgia Strait and Vancouver Island beyond.

### What's the attraction---inside:

Most B&Bs are in homes that have been renovated or repurposed to accommodate guests and may be in the main part of the house. Ocean Breezes is brand-new and one of a newer generation of purpose-built bed and breakfasts with separate private entrance and specifically designed suites.

In fact, Ralph is an architect and one of the interesting things about this B&B is the use of space, and attention to details such as lighting, high ceilings and windows.

Each of the two suites is spacious and features deluxe queen bed, private deck with spectacular ocean views, entertainment and snack centres and fireplace. One suite contains a soaker tub in



CATHY LUKOVICH/SPECIAL TO THE VANCOUVER SUN

Ocean Breezes Bed and Breakfast in Gibsons is a new purpose-built home with fabulous views over the Strait of Georgia. Breakfast can be served on your private deck overlooking the ocean.

the window alcove while the other suite has a sofa bed for reading or accommodating extra guests.

Some travellers like the idea of communal breakfasts around a dining table in a B&B, while others prefer the idea of a private breakfast. Ocean Breezes has opted for the latter. Guests are served a gourmet in-suite breakfast between 8 and 10 AM, while on earlier morning(s), a deluxe continental breakfast is left in the mini-fridge. Our tasty in-suite breakfast included crustless quiche, black-forest ham, fresh fruit, croissants and breads.

An available option is a half-hour in-suite neck and shoulder massage by a registered practitioner.

### What's the attraction---outside:

Gibsons Landing, home of the CBC television series *The Beachcombers*, is minutes away. Diversions here include a seawall, public wharf, shops, art galleries, restaurants and museums.

There are plenty of hiking and mountain biking trails nearby. Ocean Breezes offers free use of two mountain bikes for guests. Soames Hill has rain-forest hiking trails that lead to a fabulous view over Howe Sound and Georgia Strait. Cliff Gilker Park has an old-growth rainforest hike and a waterfall.

Several beaches in the area offer the opportunity to stroll, swim, explore tidal pools or watch a spectacular sunset.

The Gibsons area is renowned for its excellent kayaking with an abundance of islands, coves and bays to explore.



Ocean Breezes has partnered with a local kayaking company to provide a variety of excursions.

### What's the cost:

Each room is \$165 - 175/night double with a two-night minimum in peak season and on all week-ends. A three-to-four-or-more-night booking reduces the cost. Additional guests in the same room are an additional \$15/night. *(Numbers in this section edited by Ocean Breezes to indicate current rates)*

### Miscellany:

For further information about the Sunshine Coast, check out Vancouver, Coast and Mountains at: [www.coastandmountains.bc.ca](http://www.coastandmountains.bc.ca).

For ferry schedules and trip planning check [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com).

Jeff Lukovich is a Delta freelance writer.