

To those interested in attending my Island Knitting Retreats:

I hold annual spring and fall Island Knitting Retreats in Friday Harbor, on beautiful San Juan Island, where I live. Our islands are a nature-lover's paradise, located about 100 miles north of Seattle, and an hour-and-a-half ferry ride west through shimmering emerald waters. Along the way you might see whales, dolphins, sea lions, seals, eagles, falcons, or osprey. Knitters who have joined me in the past fall in love with the beauty and peace, just as I did many years ago.



The retreats are held at Lakedale Resort. Arrival is Sunday, with departure Friday morning, giving us four complete days together. My knitters love the luxurious accommodations, our gathering space (see above), and the lovingly prepared delicious, healthy meals. All retreat participants receive lovely goodie bags. Fall, 2011, is full with a wait list, and I will open the 2012 retreats to newcomers sometime in November of this year. The 2012 dates are March 25-30, April 1-6, April 15-20, October 16—21, October 14-19, October 21-26, and October 28-November 2. The Spring Retreats focus on gift projects, so that you can spoil yourself while simultaneously creating gifts for loved ones. Knitters receive a small collection of my unpublished patterns, mostly for one skein, and can expect to complete several projects. The Fall Retreats focus on what I call Forensic Knitting—a variety of inroads for exploring and investigating how knitting works and discovering intoxicating new possibilities.



I teach every morning; afternoons are free. If the interisland ferry schedule cooperates, many knitters choose to spend an afternoon floating among islands, enjoying spectacular scenery while knitting and talking. One afternoon a fiber purveyor from Lopez Island sets up shop in the lobby for us, and another day a knitting-tool silversmith, also from Lopez, brings over.



With afternoons wide open, you can nap, hike, visit museums (we have the only whale museum in the world) and galleries, shop (our yarn shop, Island Wools, is right next to a bead shop), canoe on the lake, visit South Beach, where you may see foxes, rabbits, and eagles, feed apples to Mona, a friendly camel who lives nearby, visit Krystal Acres

Alpaca Farm, or relax with your knitting and new friends in the lodge. Evenings, after a delicious dinner, I review the morning's lessons, offer lots of one-on-one help, and tell stories from the knitting world.

The retreat fee is \$360, not including lodging and meals. I've negotiated great off-season rates at Lakedale, When you look at their web site (www.lakedale.com), ignore the listed prices. For us, the wonderfully comfortable lodge rooms, with free wifi, gas fireplaces, Jacuzzi tubs, balconies or decks overlooking the lake are currently \$124 per night. Cabins with two bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a kitchen are \$164 for two people. The cabins are a short walk from the lodge where we gather for classes and meals; the farthest is less than two minute's walk away (over level ground). Breakfast is included in the lodging cost. Our wonderful catered lunches and dinners Monday through Thursday will cost approximately \$200, and are legendary among returnees.

When I open up registration for the 2012 retreats in November, you'll receive an email from me letting you know you can register if you like. Spots go fast, and I keep a wait list (cancellations do come in, often within a month or two of the event, so if you have a flexible schedule you are most likely to get in).

On the next page you'll find information about how to get to the island.

I hope to see you at one of my 2012 retreats, and to enjoy getting to know you as we knit together.

Cat



Traveling to Friday Harbor, San Juan Island

Washington State Ferries

Current schedule for Anacortes-San Juan ferry: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/>

Island Airporter

A Friday Harbor based shuttle runs directly between Seatac (Seattle- Tacoma Airport) and Friday Harbor once daily (except Sundays). If your schedule can match it, you won't need to carry your luggage on the ferry (it will be in the van). For an extra fee owner John Nash will deliver you right to Lakedale. Current schedules and rates can be found at www.islandairporter.com or by calling (360) 378-7438.

Bellair Charters Airporter Shuttle

This service offers 12 roundtrips daily between Seatac (Seattle- Tacoma Airport) and the Anacortes Ferry Terminal. The trip is lengthened by additional stops en route. Current schedules and rates are available at www.airporter.com/shuttle. Make sure to allow at least 45 minutes between the scheduled arrival time of the shuttle and the ferry's departure, in case the shuttle runs into traffic.

Rental Cars

Seatac Airport many national rental car chains. If driving to the Anacortes Ferry Terminal, it is prudent to arrive 1 hour prior to your scheduled sailing, since ferries do overload. It takes about 2 hours to drive directly from the airport to Anacortes. If using GPS, type in Anacortes, not Friday Harbor, or it will send you by an insanely longer route via Whidbey Island and a second ferry.

Kenmore Air

For those who prefer to fly (and to see beautiful sights!), Kenmore Air offers both land and sea plane services. Those traveling by land plane are shuttled between Seatac (Seattle-Tacoma Airport) and Boeing Field. Those traveling by sea plane are shuttled from Seatac to Lake Union and land in the Friday Harbor Marina. Current schedules as well as reservation information can be found at www.kenmoreair.com. Before making reservations, make sure to coordinate your arrival and departure from Seatac with Kenmore's schedule, allowing enough time to collect your baggage.