

Cat Bordhi's 2020 Weaving for Knitters Retreats

In Friday Harbor, Washington, on dreamy San Juan Island

Three sessions: March 8-13 March 15-20 March 29-April 3



Our vista...imagine weaving while watching sea planes, sailboats, and ferries come and go.

This will be the fourth year of teaching weaving to knitters on a simple loom with infinite possibilities. I delight in teaching curious individuals to weave and to use their knitting skills to turn woven cloth into garments, bags, even Moebius cowls. My kind, clear, and individualized teaching methods will guide you happily into this new rabbit hole, all on a friendly rigid heddle loom (which I provide).

The skills and common sense I transmit are playful and easy. How easy? In every single retreat, everyone has been warped and weaving before lunch on the first day. Each retreat includes both brand new and experienced weavers (some returning for their fourth year, hurrah!), and everyone moves along at their own pace doing whatever they are drawn to, with my support. The beauty and diversity of the woven pieces that beginners and more experienced weavers create during our time together never ceases to amaze us all. It is a safe place to discover your own potential and make new friends.

Glimpses from our 2019 Weaving for Knitters Retreats



Barb, first year weaver



Bronwyn, first year weaver



Laura, third year weaver



A first-year weaver



Kerri, first year weaver



A second-year weaver

Glimpses from our 2018 Weaving for Knitters Retreats



A very pleased weaver



Enchanting pillows, easy to weave



Color makes simple weaving glorious



Making waves with Salish Sea Shuttles



An experimental clasped warp!



Playing with pick-up sticks and waves

More details about our retreat

The San Juan Islands, where I have lived for nearly thirty years, are a nature-lover's paradise, about a 100 mile drive north of Seattle and an hour-and-a-half ferry ride west through shimmering emerald waters. Along the way you might see whales, dolphins, seals, or eagles. Participants fall in love with the beauty and peace, just as I did many years ago. Several of my returnees have even moved here, which makes me very happy. You will feel you have gotten away from the hustle and bustle of the world.

You'll arrive Sunday afternoon and depart Friday morning, giving us four complete days together. If you wish, spend an afternoon riding our inter-island ferry (just steps from our hotel), skimming along the water from island to island and enjoying spectacular scenery. And all week long you'll revel in the beauty that surrounds you, our luxurious accommodations, our serene gathering space, and the lovely people who gather for our retreats.



potter, browse the village shops, or just weave! At South Beach you can fly kites or collect agates, and may see foxes, rabbits, and eagles. You can visit an alpaca farm, or simply relax with new friends in the lodge. The Inn provides breakfast, and for the first retreat, lunches and dinners will be catered by our beloved chef, Deb Nolan, and for the second and third retreat, she will cater lunches and dinner will be as you wish amongst the nearby restaurants.



I teach in the morning and again late in the afternoon. In between, I encourage you to explore our friendly small town. The Island Inn at 123 West faces the marina, with shops, the Whale Museum, coffee houses, bookstores, art galleries, bakeries, and our local yarn shop, Island Wools, all within a few minutes' walk. One afternoon Island Fibers from neighboring Lopez Island ferries over and sets up shop in our Weaving Wonderland room. You can nap, hike, take a whale-watching tour, go geocaching (over 100 caches are hidden here), visit our Whale Museum or art galleries, a wonderful local

I teach weaving projects for beginners and beyond

I start every retreat by teaching brand new weavers. Even returnees learn something new with this review. Participants often comment that our diversity of skills is one of the best things about the retreat.



This throw uses a fun pick-up stick technique that last year's new weavers fell in love with.



One of the patterns you will receive at the retreat is for this tunic (see detail below).



Many new weavers used Island Wools' color gradient yarn kits to make elegant scarves.



Weaving and knitting merge—it's hard to see where one begins and the other ends!

Weaving is a wonderful rabbit hole to fall into!

All those knitting yarns in your stash for which you've never been able to find quite the right pattern may suddenly find their true calling on the loom, because weaving thrives on combining variable quantities, textures, and weights of yarn. Happiness awaits you...



Weaving around a Salish Sea stone lets you swatch your yarn. I wove this throw with odds and ends from my stash.



100s of rabbits live above South Beach, where you can collect Salish Sea stones.

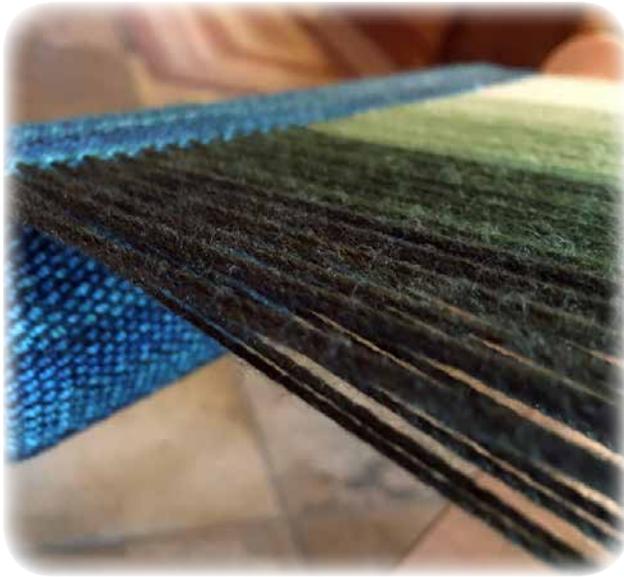
Weaving, like knitting, floods one with that oh so familiar balm of well-being.

Similar to my Island Knitting Retreats, but limited to 18 people each, these retreats invite you to escape to a beautiful Pacific Northwest island with amazing meals and my personalized instruction. A friendly 16-inch rigid heddle loom will be yours to use the entire retreat, and if you decide you want to buy one, our local yarn shop, Island Wools, can have one drop-shipped to your house.

As days go by, I'll share a treasure chest of simple manipulations that produce intricate variations, as well as ways to merge woven and knitted fabric. When I demonstrate how to knit from any edge or surface of handwoven cloth, knitters gasp with disbelief that it can be that easy, and it is music to my ears! I also teach a number of tricks I have devised myself, such as how to make your warp behave to the very end, how to wind on without help, and much more.

My collection of weaving books, tools, and intriguing gadgets will be available for your exploration, so you can identify your preferences. I strongly urge you not to buy a loom before coming, because you, like those in previous year, may be surprised by your preferences.

Reflections from earlier weaving retreats...



Laura, from Virginia

You arrive thinking you will learn a bit about weaving. Then a little bell rings and you enter the Cat zone, and emerge a few days later with your wishes fulfilled and so much more. I arrived as a knitter, stressed and looking forward to a few days off in a new location. I left as a weaver, not just in the warp and weft of my loom, but with the warp and weft threads of my life interwoven with new friends and an extended community of positive support and joy in our shared experience. The island was beautiful, restful, and the food was truthfully among the best I have ever eaten.

Jan, from California

Cat Bordhi retreats are truly magical. Cat taught weaving with grace and simplicity and I couldn't believe how quickly all of us were weaving fantastic pieces. The tips and tricks you learn are invaluable and you truly will "fall down the rabbit hole" as Cat likes to say. The setting and the food but even more the people that you are with will be a balm for your soul.

Kate, from British Columbia, Canada

This is one of the best gifts you can give yourself. Learning with Cat is dreamy and funny and stress-free all at the same time. The food is wondrous and the setting exquisite and I left feeling I had plugged into a community of new lifelong friends. I arrived not knowing a thing about weaving, and left with enough know-how and confidence to buy my own loom!

Dana, from Henry Island (a smaller island adjacent to San Juan Island)

As I reflect back on the Weaving for Knitters retreat I am filled with a warm fuzzy feeling just like the purring cat on my lap. I entered the retreat with the wobbly knees of a tiny kitten as I had never ever even knitted a stitch. I left feeling enveloped into a fold of friendship, community and inspiration, with my tail high like an adored confident tabby. Cat Bordhi is an astounding teacher filled with passion, joy, stories and easy short cuts to make the most difficult of leaps seem easy. Don't walk, run to sign up for this workshop as your life will be beautifully enriched by it.

Lori, from Virginia

At Cat Bordhi's weaving retreats, it's so much more than just learning what to do with warp and weft. As it all comes together, the marvelous teacher, the magnificent location, spectacular meals, and serene environment, every attendee becomes entwined into the cloth beneath their fingers. The fabric you bring home is filled with inspiration, friendship, hope and love. It holds memories of the stories shared, the beauty seen, the friendships formed and the artist created in you. Go!

Our deeply relaxing retreats anchor a strong sense of community.

We may spend a little time each day knitting or weaving in communal silence, letting the deep wellspring of tranquillity that lies within our harmonious hands fill the room. Participants often comment that the retreat has been one of the best weeks of their life.



Cost: The retreat fee is \$500, plus an equipment loan/ materials fee of \$125. I provide a plentiful supply of colorful worsted weight cotton yarn in both worsted and lighter weights for learning and exploration. Your carefree learning experiments can become practical, beautiful dish towels, placemats, napkins, knitting bags, and you will receive a collection of my original weaving patterns as PDFs before our retreat begins.

The Island Inn: Please see the separate Island Inn PDF for descriptions of lodging choices, which in 2019 range from \$145 for a single to \$315 for a shared penthouse. You make your lodging reservation directly with them. The Inn includes a delicious breakfast. Please see the separate *2020 Island Inn Room Guide* PDF.

To register, email me at cat@catbordhi.com to ask if the retreat date you prefer has space.

If the answer is yes, then I'll ask you to print and fill out the registration form on page 8 and send it to me along with your deposit to reserve your spot. *The balance is due 3 months before your retreat begins.*

I sincerely hope to see you at one of our 2018 retreats—either these weaving retreats or my traditional knitting retreats—to share the beautiful island with you and enjoy getting to know you.

In the spirit of our beautiful, generous, and wise hands,

Cat

Traveling to Friday Harbor, San Juan Island



Mount Baker looms into view as the ferry passes Lopez Island. The well-lit boats are great for knitting and jigsaw puzzles, usually with several puzzles waiting for the next traveler to sit down and continue. Or you can walk laps inside or outside. I love our ferries.

Washington State Ferries

Sailing schedule and car reservations for Anacortes-Friday Harbor ferry: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries>

Driving

If driving, remember that your ferry reservation is void if you are not through the ticket booth 30 minutes ahead of the scheduled sailing. It takes about 2 hours to drive directly from the airport to Anacortes, longer if there is traffic. For GPS, use 2100 Ferry Terminal Road, Anacortes. Once off the ferry, turn left, and look for the tall gray water tank with the numbers 123 on the side. We're right there.

Island Airporter

John Nash runs this shuttle between Friday Harbor and the Seattle-Tacoma Airport from Monday through Saturday. See www.islandairporter.com and call John at (360) 378-7438.

Bellair Charters Airporter Shuttle

This service offers 12 roundtrips daily between Seatac (Seattle-Tacoma Airport) and the Anacortes Ferry Terminal. Current schedules and rates are available at www.airporter.com/shuttle. Make sure to allow an hour between the scheduled arrival time of the shuttle and the ferry's departure, in case the shuttle runs into traffic.

Kenmore Air

KenmoreAir.com offers land and sea plane services. The sea planes land in the marina next to our hotel. Before making reservations, make sure to coordinate your arrival and departure from Seatac with Kenmore's schedule, allowing enough time to collect your baggage.

Travel questions?

Call the Island Inn at 360.378.4400



The view from our hotel

Registration for 2020 Island Weaving Retreats with Cat Bordhi

Retreats are held at The Island Inn at 123 West in Friday Harbor, Washington

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Emergency contact: _____

To hold a space, email me at cat@catbordhi.com to ask if there is space in the retreat you want.

If I confirm that there is, reserve your spot by printing and filling out this page and mailing it to the address below with a check for \$150, made out to Passing Paws Press, Inc (I cannot take credit cards).

Cat Bordhi
PO Box 2463
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

The \$150 nonrefundable deposit holds your space. However, you may transfer your deposit if you need to cancel *and can find a replacement yourself*. The balance of \$475 (\$350 retreat fee balance and \$125 equipment loan/ materials fee) is due 3 months prior to the retreat. It is nonrefundable unless I can fill your spot from my wait list or you find a replacement yourself.



Circle the session you wish to attend, and please write the dates on your check.

March 8-13

March 15-20

March 29-April 3

Lodging: *Once you register, phone The Island Inn at 360-378-4400 to reserve your accommodations.* If you would like to share a Sweet or Penthouse with someone, let the Inn know and they will add you to a list of people wishing to share. Arrival is Sunday afternoon/evening, and departure is Friday morning. *No activities are scheduled for arrival or departure days, because they are travel days. Arrival day dinner is on your own.*

Meals: The Inn provides breakfast. Lunch and dinner are on your own at nearby restaurants. For the March 3-8 retreat only, lunch and dinner will be catered and you will receive this information separately.

Personal Liability and Indemnification Agreement: I take your safety and the security of your belongings very seriously, but I cannot be liable for any personal injury, loss/theft or damage any time during the retreat. Your attendance constitutes your agreement to indemnify Cat Bordhi and Passing Paws Press, Inc, from any claim for injury, loss, or damage for any reason. You are responsible for any damage to retreat property, facilities, or equipment caused by you through negligence or willful intent.



Please initial here: _____

Email: cat@catbordhi.com