

Cat Bordhi's "Let the River Carry You" Knitting Retreats February 23-28 or March 1-6, 2020



Each February for the past four years, a group of beloved knitters and I have been developing what we think of as our “silent knitting retreat.” We undulate between periods of silent knitting and periods that give rise to peaceful talking and knitting demonstrations. This devotion carries us all week like floating blossoms on a balmy stream, growing deeper and more profound day by day.



This same tender abundance streams through all of my teaching events. These retreats are dedicated to welcoming this sweet mystery and is designed for those who want a quieter, deeper time together. Participants often discover a newly awakened trust in their ability to design, and everyone feels a deep sense of relaxation, rejuvenation, insight, love, and wholeness to take back into the world along with new life-long friendships.

I do not plan specific projects ahead of time; rather I respond to individual wishes on a moment-by-moment basis. I first received permission and an invitation to teach in this graceful manner many years ago during my elementary school teaching internship, when a supervisor asked me what might happen if I went into the classroom without preparation and simply followed whatever evolved. I'd been struggling to plan lessons and meet curricular expectations without compromising my instinctive ability to connect with students and authentically accompany them in our learning. “You’re giving me permission to do that?” I asked, and he nodded, like the wise man one meets in a fairy tale. I taught school for a decade and then moved on to teaching curious knitters around the world while this clarity and mystery reverberated within me like a steady center. It is why I love to teach. When I meet you as you are, and accompany your best self in your present evolution, it is close to effortless, like a glass of clear water. Come join us in this sweet space—it would be a joy to have you with us.

I came up with the name for this retreat while writing my book, *Versatildes – a New Landscape for Knitters*, where I coax knitters to trust a more instinctive way of knitting and share a particularly liberating technique for doing so. The guiding light is to knit as a river might, allowing an ever-changing dance of rivulets and currents. It's a funny thing to teach, because it's actually an unteaching.



This retreat may or may not be for you

Periods of knitting instruction will arise organically in response to the wishes of the group and individuals; in the past it has been just right, and satisfying for all. If you prefer a retreat with lots of social interaction and focused, planned projects and instruction, one of my regular retreats will suit you better and carry the same nourishing essence, and I'd love to have you there. But if this retreat aligns with your own longings, I dearly hope you might join us to help unfurl our days with your hands and presence.



Our home sweet home

We make ourselves at home at the Island Inn right on the marina in Friday Harbor, on San Juan Island. Our meals are inspiring and the island is endlessly enchanting. You'll have plentiful free time every afternoon to explore the island, take a nap, go for a hike, or simply knit peacefully with your new friends. We spend mornings and late afternoons together, along with meals.

Costs

The retreat fee is \$500. The Island Inn's accommodations range from \$145 for a single to \$315 for a Penthouse with space for 2 to 6 people. Please see the Island Inn Room Guide PDF for all the details. They will provide breakfast, and our legendary, locally sourced, catered lunches and dinners are \$245.

Email me at cat@catbordhi.com to see if I have space for you. I hope so!

If you have any questions, just let me know.



Our view is so beautiful that I take many photos every day. I hope you will too.



Stones from South Beach, with yarn.



Lopez Island Fibers ferries over from a neighboring island one afternoon.



The Inn is very beautiful.



We have enchanting foxes.

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 our "Let the River Carry You" Knitting Retreat



Circle your 2020 dates: February 23-2 or March 1-6

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Emergency contact: _____

Print and fill out this page and mail it to me at the address below with a check for \$150 *made out to Passing Paws Press, Inc.* This \$150 deposit reserves your space. Should you need to cancel, this deposit is nonrefundable unless you *find a replacement for yourself.* The balance of \$350 is due 4 months before the retreat begins and is then nonrefundable unless you find a replacement for yourself.

Cat Bordhi
PO Box 2463
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Lodging: Once you register, review the separate PDF, *The Island Inn Room Guide for Cat's 2020 Retreats*, then phone the Island Inn at 123 West at 360-378-4400 to reserve your accommodations. If you would find someone to share a Sweet or Penthouse with, let the Inn know and they will try to help. Arrival is Sunday afternoon/evening, and departure is Friday morning. No activities are scheduled for Sunday or Friday, because they are travel days. Sunday dinner is on your own.

Meals: The Island Inn provides breakfast. You will mail Cat a \$245 check (made out to Deb Nolan, our lunch and dinner kitchen magician) 30 days ahead of the retreat along with the catering form on next page.

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:** _____

Cat's email: cat@catbordhi.com

Please check to be sure you circled your dates above. Thank you!

Catering form for our 2020 “Let the River Carry You” Knitting Retreat

Please send this form to Cat *with a check made out to Deb Nolan.*

Cat Bordhi
POB 2463
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

This form and check (*made out to Deb Nolan*) **must be received 30 days before our retreat.**

If your form and check is received 30 days in advance of your retreat, the cost is \$245.

If received less than 30 days in advance, the cost is \$275.



Circle your 2020 dates: February 23-28 or March 1-6

Cancellation policy: If cancelled 30 days prior to retreat, full payment may be transferred to a future retreat. If cancelled up to 2 weeks prior to retreat, 50% of payment may be transferred to a future retreat. For cancellations less than 2 weeks prior to a retreat, no credit is possible.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Deb is an instinctive, creative, and gifted chef who cooks as passionately as we knit.

Her sumptuous meals have been delighting, inspiring, and nourishing our knitters for years.

_____ I am a vegetarian.

_____ I am a vegan.

_____ I am allergic to gluten _____ to dairy _____ to shellfish.

_____ I am allergic to these nuts: _____

Deb can accomodate the above food preferences and allergies listed above and says: “Though I am careful about food allergies and restrictions, I do prepare all kinds of foods including shellfish, nuts, wheat and other items containing gluten, and dairy in my kitchen. I will contact individuals if a food restrictor is not listed on form to see if I can accommodate them. *They may have to repeat certain items like soups and main entrees if too restricted.”

Deb describes her cuisine:

It brings me joy to prepare delicious, creative meals for Cat’s retreats at the Island Inn. I feel my style of cooking is best described as a Mediterranean Diet, influenced by my life travels and experiences. The meals center around a colorful variety of seasonally fresh and locally grown produce, varied proteins (seafood, poultry, pork, and lamb), seasoned with fresh herbs and spices, beans and nuts, healthy grains, fresh breads, cheeses, olive oil, house made soups and salad dressings, and small decadent desserts.

Please check to be sure you have circled your dates above. Thank you!