

Legendary Weavings of the Pacific Northwest Coast

Rediscover the Lost Art of Ravenstail Weaving ~

Be a Part of Reviving Weaving History



August 15 - 20, 2013

A Quick Getaway

6 Days



Loom Dancer Weaving Odysseys

Loom Dancer Weaving Odysseys

*"Weaving together uncommon journeys
with hands-on experience"*

Dear Adventurous Weaver,

As an avid explorer and a weaver, I feel there is a timeless connection between these two passions. For the past 20 years, with my adventure travel company, NatureQuest, we have shown countless travelers the many treasures of this planet. I decided to combine my travel industry expertise with my love for, and appreciation of, weaving to create unique, hands-on textile workshops around the world.

Each odyssey focuses on, and explores in depth, the various textile centers of the world. These journeys offer the discovery of colorful destinations combined with an opportunity for a "hands-on" weaving experience in the style and tradition of the host country with a master artist. These are small group, intimate travel experiences limited to just a handful of weavers. I will lead each odyssey so I invite you to join me for the fiber arts experience of a lifetime!

In the Spirit of Adventure and Creativity,

Cari Ann Sample Malver
Director



Meet Our Ravenstail Weaving Mentor...

Cheryl Samuel

Cheryl Samuel, internationally acclaimed artist, author and teacher, will forever be associated with the revival of Ravenstail weaving on the Pacific Northwest Coast. In 1980, while writing *The Chilkat Dancing Blanket*, she became intrigued by an older style of weaving. Little known, these textiles existed only in museum collections. In 1981 Cheryl traveled the world to study the old robes and a few remaining fragments. Using notes and photographs taken during her research trips, she reconstructed the old techniques and wove a new robe. In 1987 she published *The Raven's Tail*, her second definitive work on Northwest Coast weaving. Since 1985 she has worked for the University of Alaska, traveling to coastal communities and remote villages to share her knowledge with the descendants of the original weavers. Two decades ago there were no Ravenstail robes in use on the coast; today they dance in ceremony and potlatch, a pride of the people who make and wear them.

Cheryl received honors B.A. and M.F.A. degrees from the University of Washington. She has represented Canada in two Commonwealth Games Arts Festivals: 1986 in Edinburgh, Scotland and 1990 in Auckland, New Zealand.

Cheryl is the author of two major books and a DVD: *The Chilkat Dancing Blanket* and *The Raven's Tail*, as well as the DVD and book: *A Course in Ravenstail*.

Cheryl Samuel, through research, enthusiasm and a lot of patience, triggered the revival of the ancient ceremonial art of Ravenstail weaving in Alaska. She now turns her knowledge of teaching and weaving to another of her passions: wood turning and Celtic drawing. She explores these art forms as an expression of her Irish, Russian and Norwegian heritage. Her paintings, weavings and woodturnings are in private and museum collections worldwide, and she has woven regalia commissioned for ceremonial use by aboriginal Americans.

The Itinerary At A Glance

Day 1: Fly to Vancouver; Ferry to Victoria

Day 2: Ravenstail Weaving Workshop with Cheryl Samuel

Day 3: Ravenstail Weaving Workshop

Day 4: Ravenstail Weaving Workshop

Day 5: Exploring Victoria

Day 6: Fly home



All weavings featured in this brochure were created by Cheryl Samuel over a period of the last 40 years.

The Lost Art of Ravenstail Weaving



Ravenstail Weaving is an ancient style of twining that traditionally creates dramatic geometric patterns in black and white with splashes of yellow highlights. This design invites your eyes to dance across the designs.

This style of twining was done along the Pacific Northwest Coast until the late 1700's when it evolved into Chilkat Weaving and that "form line" style of weaving began to flourish. Ravenstail Weaving "slept" for almost 200 years until its revival by Cheryl Samuel in the 1980s when she published her book, "The Raven's Tail" and began teaching.



Only 15 examples of Ravenstail weaving survived; some mere scraps of robes, some complete robes that were found across the world in museums and



three sketches by early explorers. One sketch shows a robe on Chief Kotlean of Sitka, one on "Aichunk", an Aliut Chief, and there is a picture of Chief Peter Ni.sy,qt, Tsimshian wearing a Ravenstail Robe. From this, we know these

beautiful Ravenstail were prized all along Alaska's coast, but we know little about the weavers.

What we do know about the weavers is that they were immensely talented, not only with their hands but with their eyes, and minds, their memories and imaginations, and their sense of design and balance.

Quoted from www.uas.alaska.edu



Victoria

Canada's Charming City-by-the-Sea





The Aichun Robe, interpreted from an 1818 painting of
Toion Aichun by Mikhail Tikhonov (above)

*"Cheryl is so much fun; everyone loves her as a teacher; very inspirational.
I think when people create the Ravenstail bag, get into the culture of the Island
by going to the BC Museum, etc., they have a fabulous feeling for this unique culture."*

~Heather K., Past Workshop Participant

Thursday, August 15

Arrive Victoria, British Columbia

Fly from your home to Vancouver, British Columbia. Upon arrival, you will transfer to the ferry terminal for the short voyage to Victoria (one hour and 35 minutes – additional cost of approximately \$35USD as they do not allow advance reservations). The rest of the afternoon is yours to explore this vibrant city by the sea. While enjoying some of Canada's most exhilarating scenery, Victoria also boasts many museums, waterfront paths, fragrant flower gardens, gourmet restaurants and immaculately restored 19th-century architecture. It is a very walkable town and easy to explore.

Victoria's Inner Harbour is its cultural center filled with street entertainers, horse-and-carriage rides and friendly local whales cavorting in its waters, all with the mountains and ocean as a lovely backdrop. Our accommodations are at the award-winning Magnolia Hotel and Spa, a small boutique hotel with an unbeatable location, just steps from Victoria's picturesque Inner Harbour.

From our hotel, we can walk to the Parliament Buildings, Royal BC Museum, Victoria Conference Centre, Beacon Hill Park and other top attractions. You'll also find whale watching expeditions, boat tours, scenic flights, horse-drawn carriage rides and double-decker bus tours a short stroll away from our accommodations. Hundreds of shops and restaurants are nearby, too. Dinner is on your own to enjoy the many fabulous nearby restaurants. Overnight at Magnolia Hotel and Spa. (No meals included)

<http://www.magnoliahotel.com>



Ravenstail High Top Moccasins,
exhibited at the Spirit Wrestler Gallery, Vancouver

Friday - Sunday, August 16 - 18 Ravenstail Weaving Workshop



Traditional Ravenstail Medicine Bag

We will spend these three creative days exploring the twining techniques used by native weavers of the Pacific Northwest Coast to create their magnificent Chief's cloaks. Ravenstail is one of the oldest weaving styles used on the coast and is a direct adaptation of basketry techniques. Ravenstail was practiced on the coast until the end of the 1700's, when it was replaced by the innovative Chilkat style. The revival of Ravenstail began in 1987 and weavers up and down the coast are now practicing this ancient art form and new robes, aprons, and leggings are being used again in ceremony. We will feel the spirit of genius inherent in the early weavers by making a small medicine bag using the traditional techniques, patterns and colors.

Each evening is at your leisure to explore Victoria's many sites and fabulous restaurants. Overnight at Magnolia Hotel and Spa. (B, L daily)

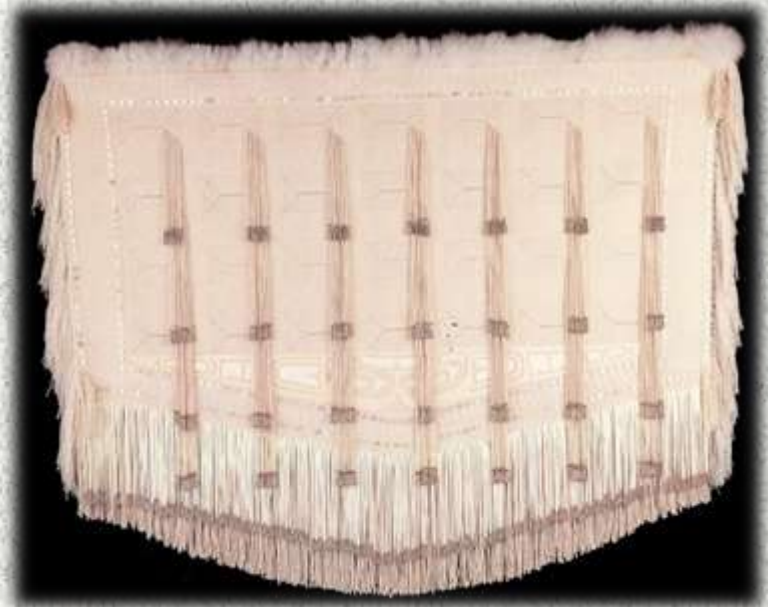
Monday, August 19

Free Day in Victoria

Today is at your leisure to spend the entire day exploring Victoria. You may wish to stroll through the 55 acres of Butchart Gardens or enjoy a boat excursion to view the resident Orca whales; visit the Royal BC Museum where you can walk through a rainforest and sit among aboriginal poles, or shop your heart out in Victoria's eclectic shops. The choice is yours. Lunch is on your own today so that you can visit one of Victoria's many tremendous restaurants. For more ideas of activities, you may wish to visit the following website: <http://www.islandnet.com/~victourism/mall/101ideas.htm> Overnight at Magnolia Hotel. (B)



An Added Bonus: During our stay in Victoria, one of British Columbia's most spectacular summer festivals will take place. The famous Dragon Boat Races is the only Dragon Boat Festival in Canada to take place in a working harbor. It is exciting to watch 90 Dragon Boat teams from across North America race across Victoria's beautiful Inner Harbour. ©Photo from www.victoriadragonboat.com



White Raven Robe

shown in "Inspirit Crossing." Singapore Art Museum

Tuesday, August 20

Return Home

Today, we will take the ferry back to Vancouver and transfer to the airport for our flight(s) home. Or you may wish to spend a little time in Vancouver exploring. We would be happy to help you with suggestions and arrangements for an exciting extension in this vibrant city full of fantastic sites, shops and restaurants. (B)

A Gallery of Cheryl Samuel's Ravenstail and Chilkat Weavings



Visit Cheryl Samuel's website

www.ravenstail.com

Land Costs Include:

- 5 Nights accommodations based on double occupancy; single accommodations available at additional cost
- Continental breakfast daily
- Lunches on 3 days, catered by the Empress Hotel
- 3 Days of exclusive Ravenstail Weaving Workshop with renowned expert instructor Cheryl Samuel
- All materials and equipment required for the Ravenstail Weaving Workshop

Land Costs Exclude:

- Any air transportation or ferry to/from Victoria (ferry is approximate cost \$35 round trip; no advance-reservations permitted) or transfers
- Meals not designated on the itinerary
- Any optional activities such as whale watching, excursions, taxis, etc. not included in the itinerary are at an additional cost or any item not specifically included in your program including all snacks, extra personal beverages & bottled water, alcoholic beverages, excess baggage fees, laundry, phone calls, internet and any other items of a personal nature not specifically indicated
- Tips for your drivers, hotel porters and other service staff

Cost: \$1,495 Per Person Based on Double Occupancy **

**\$1,595 per person if group is less than six weavers

For those wishing single accommodations, there is a \$550 Single Supplement

We highly recommend purchasing trip cancellation insurance. We provide an application with your Registration Packet. To be eligible for maximum benefits, you must purchase within 2 weeks of paying your initial deposit. Please call our office for details.

As with all true adventures, these itineraries are subject to change without notice based on a variety of factors. Although NatureQuest/Loom Dancer Weaving Odysseys will do our best to adhere to the scheduled itinerary, we are all at the mercy of Mother Nature and varying weather conditions. As is the case with all true adventures, your itinerary should be considered an approximation of activities only. The itinerary or accommodations may be changed subject to unexpected and worthwhile opportunities, weather, group desires, and circumstances beyond our control, etc. NatureQuest/Loom Dancer Weaving Odysseys and its guides reserve the right to alter the itinerary without prior notice. Also please be aware that any voluntary changes on your part to your itinerary while in Canada will be made at your own expense.

Save Your Spot!

Please call our office for details or questions!

800-369-3033 ~ 970-728-6743



Loom Dancer Weaving Odysseys



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