

i.e., the market's organizers. What that means is that in addition to fresh veggies and fruits, you'll find everything from woodworkers to weavers: A recent visit featured 11 different potters. Favorites include David Wood's Salt Spring Island Cheese Company, specializing in handmade goat and sheep cheeses (serve a fresh wedge at your next dinner party), and the Saks booth, stocked with mult-sized bags made of sailcloth. The only complaint: They're so durable, they'll never wear out.

GET OUT OF GANGES

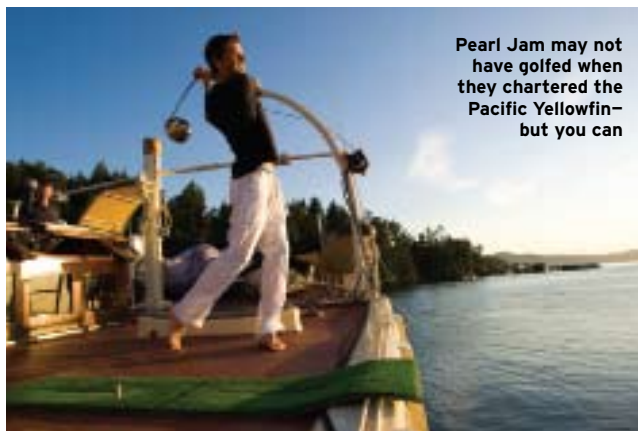
While it may be tempting to spend most of your visit in Ganges—with the quaintness it offers on every perfect corner—sometimes an escape is in order. Tiny Vesuvius Bay is only about a 10-minute drive away (there's even a new island bus between the two towns), yet it lacks the polish of Ganges in a good way. So instead of perfectly steamed Alaskan black cod, you get perfectly deep-fried fish and chips at the Seaside Kitchen, served with a view of the seaside village of Crofton on Vancouver Island. Take in one of Vesuvius' spectacular sunsets before heading back.

HIT THE HIGH SEAS

Sometimes when faced with a tough choice, you have to ask, "What would Pearl Jam do?" In the case of seeing the Gulf Islands, the Seattle band once chartered the luxe Pacific Yellowfin (via the newly launched Exposure) for a high-end movable feast through the area. For the rest of us still waiting for our big break, the circa 1943 classic wooden coastal freighter offers three-day culinary tours (from \$2,390) around the Gulf Islands, which include a stop at Salt Spring's farmers market interspersed with seafood pulled straight



Enjoy bucolic farm scenes on Salt Spring—and then feast on the goods at the famous Saturday market



Pearl Jam may not have golfed when they chartered the Pacific Yellowfin—but you can

resources

SALT SPRING ISLAND

Exposure
866.605.4845
exposure.travel

The Fritz
Central Hall, at the intersection of North End, Upper Ganges, Lower Ganges Road and Vesuvius Bay roads
250.537.4656
thefritz.ca

The Forgetting Room
18 Merchant Mews
315 Upper Ganges Road
250.537.0096
nickbantock.com

Hastings House
160 Upper Ganges Road
800.661.9255
hastingshouse.com

Salt Spring Island Saturday Market
Centennial Park
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
April 4-end October
saltspringmarket.com

Seaside Kitchen
795 Vesuvius Bay Road
250.537.2249

from the water. Your catch of the day is then prepped by a European-trained chef and served either in the gleaming mahogany dining room or on the fantail deck atop a table resting on a spare set of propellers.

SEE A MOVIE, ISLAND STYLE

One of the great things about Salt Spring is doing something familiar in an unfamiliar locale—like seeing a movie in a converted church named after a recently deceased beloved island cat. Halfway between Ganges and Vesuvius, the Fritz shows first-run films months late, but what it lacks in timeliness it makes up in character: rows of chair seating, locals strolling in with their own cups, slide shows before the film showcasing local people and places and, of course, organic popcorn.